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OF

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BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

WITH BRIEF DESCRIPTIVE NOTICES, BY G. WOODROW.

LONDON:

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PREFACE.

Among the various memorials of departed greatness which have been preserved, there is probably none which possesses greater attractions to mankind in general than those which perpetuate the expression of the living features. Independently of the gratification which these afford when contemplated as specimens of art, there is another and more powerful cause for the interest they excite. However defective may be our knowledge of physiognomy as a science, we practically evince a conviction that the countenance is the index of the mind. When we view the portraits of those with whom we once lived in the endearments of friendly intercourse, we easily persuade ourselves that we can trace the varied excellencies we had been accustomed to admire. A similar exercise of imagination no doubt enhances the pleasure which we experience in viewing the portraits of others of whom we had no personal knowledge, but who in their day acted a distinguished part on the stage of human existence.

Until a comparatively recent period, this gratification was necessarily confined to the more affluent classes of society, since the slow and laborious process of the painter was the only means by which it was attainable; but by the modern art of engraving the noblest productions of the pencil can with facility be multiplied to an indefinite extent, and it is therefore to be regretted that no publication comprising the portraits of distinguished characters has hitherto appeared which was adapted for extensive circulation,

the engravings having either been of a very inferior description or the works too costly for the generality of purchasers.

Under this impression the present volume has been prepared, with a view to supply a collection of portraits that should be characterized by a high degree of graphic skill, at a price so far below that of any former publication as to render them universally accessible.

In the "Brief Notices" which accompany these portraits it has been a principal object to compress within the assigned limits the largest possible amount of interesting information, and to exhibit the leading characteristics of each individual with fidelity and perspicuity. How far the writer has succeeded in accomplishing this task it is not for him to decide. Amidst the infinite variety of political and literary predilections which exists, he can hardly expect that his award of praise or censure should in every case be deemed just, or his selection of circumstances judicious: he has however done his best to convey a correct impression.

In addition to the general utility of the work, as a brief remembrancer, the plan which has been adopted will it is hoped render it a valuable auxiliary in the biographical department of youthful instruction, as the paragraphs can be easily committed to memory, while the pictorial representations will prove a pleasing incitement to the task.

Should the present attempt meet with the encouragement which the publishers confidently anticipate, it is their intention to follow up the plan in a series of volumes, comprising not only the most eminent characters of former times, but also those of the present generation.

LIST

OF

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS

ILLUSTRATED IN THIS VOLUME.

CANNING, WILBERFORCE } *Frontispiece.* { DUKE OF KENT, FRANKLIN.

Alfred the Great
Akenside
Queen Anne
Michael Angelo
Marie Antoinette
Achilles
Æsop
Annibal
Aristotle
Agrippa
Aristophanes
Anacreon
Lord Anson
Armstrong
Aldrovandus
Ali Pacha
Abelard
Alexander of Russia
Abercrombie
Aldrich
Alcibiades
Archimedes
Ariosto
Addison
Adam
Burney
Barrow
Bishop Burnet
Duke of Buckingham
Godfrey of Boulogne
Lord Bolingbroke
Bishop Berkeley
Bossuet
Butler
Byng
Boccace
Cardinal Beaton
Lord Bacon
Beaumont
Sir N. Bacon
Buxtorf
Burman
Brooke
Blake
Boyle
Buffon
Baliol
Barneveldt
Boileau
Robert Bruce
Blair
Burns
Lord Byron
Beattie
Burke
John Bernouilli
James Bernouilli
Earl of Berkeley
First Earl of Bedford
Fourth Earl of Bedford
Buchanan
Cecil Lord Burleigh
Anne Boleyn
Roger Bacon
Beza
Boscawen
Boswell
Sir Joseph Banks
Sir W. Blackstone
James Bruce, Esq.
Crebillon
Cunningham
Churchill
Earl of Chatham
Earl of Clarendon
Congreve
Cowper
Catherine II.
Canova
Cave
Augustus Caracci
Lewis Caracci
Corregio
Claude
Annibal Caracci
Captain Cook
Charles XII.
Countess of Cumberland
Richard Cumberland
Colman
Chaucer
Cervantes
Charles I.
Cromwell
Charles II.
Charlemagne
Clovis I.
Charles V.
Cranmer
Calvin
Cortez
Columbus
Countess of Arragon
Cosmo de Medici
Chrysostom
Dryden
Dante
Madame Dacier
Lord Duncan

Gerard Dow
Domenichino
Albert Durer
Lord Darnley
Dugdale
Sir F. Drake
Erasmus
Euler
Prince Eugene
Euclid
Euripides
Melancthon
Duke of Marlboro'
Milton
Earl of Mansfield
Metastasio
Margaret of Anjou
Queen Mary
Fourth Earl of Morton
Mary II.
Mary of Hungary
Marmontel
Lord Monboddo
Moliere
Mozart
Macpherson
Mercator
Magellan
Marquis of Montrose
Machiavel
Peter Martyr
Second Earl of Northampton
Algernon, Earl of Northumberland
Duke of Northumberland
Sir J. Norris
Napier
Pelham, Duke of Newcastle
Finche, Earl of Nottingham
Sir Isaac Newton
Lord North

Lord Nelson
Sir J. Oldcastle
Otway
Opie
Earl of Orford
Oughtred
Prideaux
Du Pin
Puffendorf
Matthew Paris
Parkhurst
Peter the Great
Pope
Catherine Parr
Purcell
Parnell
Spencer Perceval
Porson
Paley
Poussin
Pitt
Bishop Pearson
Earl of Peterborough
Prior
Pizarro
Pennant
Lord Russel
Roscommon
Prince Rupert
Rowe
Rochester
Salvator Rosa
Guido Reni
Raphael
Rubens
Rembrandt
Allan Ramsay
Richardson
Sir J. Reynolds
Lord Rodney
Robertson
Richard II.
Richard III.
Rabelais
Sir W. Raleigh
Rudolphus I.

Charlotte Smith
Arabella Stuart
Sterne
Smollett
Spence
Stillingfleet
Archbishop Secker
Tippoo Saib
Sherlock
Shenstone
Selden
Lord Somers
Algernon Sydney
Sir Hans Sloane
Swift
Duke of Somerset
Saladin
Jane Seymour
Joseph Scaliger
Sir P. Sidney
Spencer
Sully
Shakspeare
Earl of Strafford
Spelman
Titian
Mrs. Trimmer
Thomson
Tillotson
Maria Theresa
Sir H. Vane
Usher
Vandyke
Sir W. Wallace
William III.
Washington
Warton
General Wolfe
Walcot
West
Wallis
Zeno
Zimmerman
Zuinglius
Zaleucus

Frontispiece.

GEORGE CANNING.

Among those statesmen whose political conduct and personal talents have promoted the national glory of Britain, few can claim more exalted distinction than this illustrious individual. He was born in 1770, was educated at Eton and Oxford; and commenced his senatorial career in 1793. From 1796 till 1827 he was with some few interruptions connected with the administration; and on the illness of lord Liverpool he succeeded to the premiership. The auspicious prospects, however, which had been entertained by the nation, from his principles and abilities, were soon clouded by his death, which occurred in August 1827. As a politician Canning displayed the most liberal and enlightened views; and as an orator he excelled in all that can convince the understanding or captivate the fancy.

WILBERFORCE.

This distinguished philanthropist was born in 1759 at Hull in Yorkshire, and educated at Cambridge, where he contracted an intimate friendship with William Pitt. To the sufferings of the negro race his attention was early directed, and his first motion in parliament for the abolition of the slave trade was brought forward in 1787. From this period he perseveringly exerted his energies and his influence in the cause of negro emancipation, and it was his happiness to remain on the scene of labour till he beheld that cause triumphant. His death took place August 3, 1833. Among the productions of his pen is an admirable work entitled "A Practical View of the prevailing Religious System of professed Christians, contrasted with Real Christianity." To the perusal of this work the estimable Legh Richmond attributes his first sacred impressions.

DUKE OF KENT.

This amiable and lamented prince was the fourth son of king George III., and was born in 1767. He was created duke of Kent in 1799, and united in 1818 to her serene highness the princess Victorina of Saxe Coburg, sister to the present sovereign of Belgium. His marriage was crowned by the birth of a daughter, now the heiress to the British throne; but the fond prospects of a nation, by whom he was beloved for his patriotic principles and social virtues, were blighted by his unexpected death, which took place at Sidmouth in Devonshire, January 22, 1820, only a few days before the demise of his venerable parent.

FRANKLIN.

This celebrated philosopher and statesman was the son of a nonconformist, whom persecution drove from his paternal estate in Northamptonshire to Boston in New-England. He was born in 1706, and became early distinguished by his love of literature. He was apprenticed to an elder brother, a printer in Boston, and while in this humble occupation he eagerly availed himself of every means for increasing his general knowledge. His economy and diligence, united with superior abilities, at length raised him to affluence and honour. He obtained several public appointments, and in 1778 was sent as ambassador to France. His works, comprising philosophical, political, and miscellaneous essays, are characterized by force of argument and simplicity of language, rendered interesting by frequent sallies of humour. But his opinions were unhappily tinctured with scepticism, which is exhibited in his writings by a levity and irreverence in regard to religious subjects. He died in 1790.

ALFRED THE GREAT.

THIS distinguished monarch, who was born at Wantage, Berks, in 849, succeeded to the English throne in 871. He displayed great vigour and ability in his early contests with the Danes, but being closely pursued he disguised himself, and remained for 12 months in the cottage of one of his herdsmen, where he meditated measures for freeing his country. Having entered the camp of Guthrum in the disguise of a harper, he found that the Danes were indulging in a careless security; and hastening back to his troops, whom he had previously directed to be in readiness, he led them against the enemy, and gained a decisive victory. In 880 he succeeded in fully establishing his authority, which he not only subsequently supported, but also exerted himself with vigour and success in the reformation of the laws, the cultivation of literature, and the general improvement of his country. He died A.D. 901.

DR. AKENSIDE.

A LEARNED and accomplished physician, born at Newcastle-upon-Tyne in 1721. He is celebrated as the zealous advocate of civil and religious liberty, and as the author of various professional and other works. His "Pleasures of Imagination," published in 1744, was considered by Pope as a poem of unusual merit, and, as well as his Odes, has been highly appreciated by posterity. He died from putrid fever in 1770.

QUEEN ANNE.

"THE good queen Anne," as this princess has been justly denominated, succeeded to the throne in 1701, and continued to sway the sceptre during 13 years, if not with extraordinary vigour, yet with unblemished integrity and honour. She was universally beloved by her subjects, and in domestic life exhibited a pattern of conjugal fidelity and maternal affection. She died in 1714.

With this princess terminated the ascendancy of the Stuarts. England and Scotland were united during her reign under the name of Great Britain, and the succession was settled in the house of Hanover.

MICHAEL ANGELO, BUONAROTTI.

MICHAEL Angelo is one of the most distinguished names in the annals of painting, sculpture, and architecture. He was born in 1474, in the territory of Arezzi in Tuscany, and gained such reputation at Rome that he was employed by successive pontiffs in works of considerable magnitude, the execution of which called forth the admiration of his contemporaries. "The Last Judgment," painted by order of pope Paul III., is considered his chef d'œuvre. He was probably the greatest designer that ever lived, and it is universally allowed that no painter ever understood anatomy so well. He died at Rome in 1564.

MARIE ANTOINETTE,

ARCHDUCHESS of Austria and Queen of France, was born at Vienna in 1755, and married to the dauphin of France, afterwards Louis XVI., in 1770. Besides an uncommon share of grace and beauty, she possessed every accomplishment which a careful education could bestow, and a strength of mind far beyond the usual standard. After Louis XVI. ascended the throne, the mildness and generosity of the queen greatly conciliated the affections of the people; but she became obnoxious to the court party, and subsequently participated in all the troubles of her unhappy consort. She was at length arraigned before the revolutionary tribunal, and executed in Oct. 1793.

ALF.D the GREAT
AKENSIDE
ANNE
MICH.L ANGELO
ANN.A LOUISE

ACHILLES,

A CELEBRATED Grecian hero, the son of Peleus, king of Thessaly, by Thetis, one of the marine deities. The fable of his being dipped by his mother, when an infant, in the river Styx, in order to render him invulnerable, is well known. The oracle of Apollo having predicted that if he went to the Trojan war, which was just then commencing, he would perish, he was concealed for some time at the court of Lycomedes in Thrace, but was discovered by Ulysses, who compelled him to join the confederacy against Troy. He was killed by an arrow which Paris discharged at his heel (where alone he was said to be vulnerable) about 1184 B.C.

ÆSOP,

THE prince of fabulists, was born in Phrygia, and contemporaneous with Solon, by whom in conjunction with Crœsus, king of Lydia, he was held in great estimation. The assertion of his translator Planudes, respecting his personal deformity, has been contradicted by many, and still furnishes a point of controversy to the learned. The compositions of this celebrated fabulist have commanded universal admiration. It is said that the Delphians, provoked by some satirical apophthegms directed against them, threw him from the top of a high rock, 561 B.C.

ANNIBAL.

THIS renowned general was born in 247 B. C., and was the son of Amilcar Barcas, a Carthaginian, from whom he inherited the most determined hostility to the Roman name. On the death of Asdrubal, in 222, he was invested with the command of the army in Spain, and in 3 years succeeded in reducing that country to subjection. In 218 he passed the Pyrenees with a formidable army, and after traversing Gaul passed the Alps, and penetrated into Italy, where he defeated Scipio and Sempronius, and subsequently gained a complete victory over Flaminius at Thrasymene. When the Carthaginians had concluded a humiliating peace with the Romans, they conferred the prætorship on Annibal, who sedulously employed himself in endeavouring to restore the vigour of the state, which had been weakened by numerous factions. He poisoned himself, B.C. 183, to avoid being given up to the Romans.

ARISTOTLE,

THE preceptor of Alexander the Great, and founder of the Peripatetic sect of philosophy, was born B.C. 384, at Stagira, which city, having been razed by Philip of Macedon, was rebuilt by Alexander as a token of respect to his memory. He stands almost unrivalled among the instructors of the Grecian youth, and mankind in general, in wisdom and learning. His theological system is of course highly absurd; but his authority as a logician was for centuries oracular, until the increased light afforded by modern discoveries transferred the sway to Bacon and Newton.

AGRIPPA, HENRY CORNELIUS.

THIS eccentric individual was born at Cologne in 1486; in his youth he was secretary to the emperor Maximilian, and subsequently served seven years in Italy. On quitting the army he devoted himself to science, and obtained celebrity as a physician, chemist, lawyer, and writer. His most celebrated works are a caustic satire on the method of instruction which then prevailed in the universities, entitled "The Vanity of the Sciences," and a treatise on the Occult Philosophy. He died at Grenoble in 1539.

ACHILLES
ESOP
ANNIBAL

ARISTOPHANES.

A comic poet of Greece, who was contemporary with Euripides, Plato, and Socrates. He was the author of 54 comedies, of which 11 have been preserved. The fidelity of his delineations, the pure and elegant Attic style of his writings, and the humour with which they abound, has gained for him the name of a master; but in consequence of the freedom of his satire, and the general licentiousness of his pieces, he is denominated by Goethe "the spoiled child of the Graces."

ANACREON,

A celebrated lyric poet of Ionia, who flourished about 582 B.C. The sweetness and elegance of his poetry are considered as unrivalled by the productions of any age or country. His habits were however so notoriously licentious and intemperate that his statue was placed in the citadel of Athens, representing him as an old drunken man, with every mark of dissipation. He was choked by a grapestone in his 85th year, while in the act of drinking. His Odes are still preserved, and have frequently been translated into English.

The life of Anacreon furnishes a melancholy exhibition of perverted genius, and is one among the many proofs that the most splendid talents will not secure their possessor from infamy, if his character be sullied by vice and dissipation.

LORD ANSON.

This brave and skilful commander was born at Shugborough in Staffordshire in 1697. In 1716 he served as second lieutenant under Sir John Norris in the Baltic, and in the two following years under Sir George Byng against the Spaniards. In 1740 he was placed at the head of an expedition to the South Sea, and, after losing all his ships except one, he captured a galleon worth £400,000, and arrived safely at Spithead in 1744. His memorable defeat of a French squadron in 1747 was rewarded with the peerage, and he was subsequently appointed commander-in-chief of the British fleet. He died on his estate at Moor Park in 1762. His adventures and discoveries are recorded in "Anson's Voyage."

DR. JOHN ARMSTRONG,

A poet and physician, born at Castleton in Roxburghshire, about 1709, and educated at the university of Edinburgh. He was the author of various pieces both in prose and poetry, the most celebrated of which is his poem on "the Art of Preserving Health," published in 1744. In 1760 he was appointed physician to the army in Germany, where he wrote a poem entitled "Day," in which he threw out a reflection on Churchill which brought him under the lash of that severe satirist. The fine stanzas describing the diseases which arise from indolence, in Thomson's poem of "The Castle of Indolence," are attributed to the pen of Dr. Armstrong, whose morbid sensibility of feeling is but too correctly depicted in the sombre personage who "thanks heaven the day is done." His death took place in 1779.

ALDROVANDUS,

A celebrated naturalist of the sixteenth century, born at Bologna, where he became professor of philosophy and physic. He is said to have spent nearly his whole life and fortune in collecting materials for his "Natural History," which comprises 13 folio volumes. He died in 1605.

ARISTOPHANES
ANACREON
LA FONTAINE
ARCHILOCHUS
ALCIBIADES

ALI PACHA,

An Albanian chief of bold and enterprising character, was born at Tepelini in 1744. At an early period he united himself with a band of robbers, in consequence of whose depredations the adjacent tribes, arming in their own defence, carried off his mother and sister, whom they treated with such brutality as excited him to the highest pitch of indignation. He was for some years the sport of various fortune, but at length raised himself by a series of daring enterprises to a degree of power which enabled him to bid defiance to the Porte. His ambition and avarice were unbounded, his resentments implacable, and to accomplish his purposes he committed the most inhuman barbarities. In 1822 he became the victim of a treachery which he had not scrupled to exercise towards others.

ABELARD,

Born near Nantes in Bretagne, A.D. 1079. He was one of the most learned men of his time, and skilled particularly in scholastic theology; he also presided over a school of rhetoric, which was frequented by persons from all parts of Europe. But that which has transmitted his name to posterity is his unfortunate passion for Héloise, which, as delineated by the genius of Pope, has enwreathed the memory of Abelard with cypress, and claimed for him the sympathy of all who feel for the miseries of humanity. He died at the monastery of St. Marcellus near Chalons, A.D. 1142.

ALEXANDER I.

EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

This prince was born Dec. 23, 1777, and ascended the throne March 24, 1801. He was distinguished for moderation, activity, and attention to business, and for his zeal in promoting the welfare of his subjects. He particularly exerted himself for the promotion of literature and the encouragement of useful arts, manufactures, and commerce. In the war of 1813-14 he exposed himself to danger in order to inflame the courage of his troops. On the conclusion of the peace he visited England, where he met with a cordial reception, but seems to have returned with unfavourable impressions. At the congress of Vienna Poland was erected into a kingdom and added to his extensive dominions. He died in 1825 at Taganrock.

SIR RALPH ABERCROMBIE

Was born in 1738 at Tillibodie in Clackmannanshire, and at an early age entered upon a military life. He served with honour during the seven years' war and the American war, and subsequently distinguished himself in Flanders, Holland, and the West Indies. In 1801 he was sent with an army to rescue Egypt from the French, but was mortally wounded in the first general battle. He, however, remained on the field to witness the total defeat of the enemy, when he was conveyed on board the admiral's ship, where he died, much regretted by his country, March 1801.

REV. HENRY ALDRICH, D.D.,

A learned divine, born in London in 1647, and educated at Oxford. He was the author of several controversial pieces, for which he was rewarded with the deanery of Christ Church, Oxford. He also distinguished himself by his skill in musical composition. At his death, in 1710, he bequeathed a large and valuable collection of music to the College of Christ Church, over which he had presided for more than twenty years.

ALI PACHA
ABELARD

ALCIBIADES.

A CELEBRATED Athenian general and statesman, born B.C. 450. His martial abilities were chiefly conspicuous in the Syracusan war: his political sagacity was displayed in his numerous intrigues with the rulers of Sparta, and the Persian satraps of Asia Minor. The remarkable dexterity with which he accommodated himself to the vicissitudes of fortune is proverbial: in Sparta hardy and temperate; with the Persians rioting in Asiatic luxury. After a turbulent life, divided almost equally between the restraint and indulgence of his passions, he was assassinated B.C. 404.

ARCHIMEDES.

THIS celebrated geometrician was born at Syracuse in Sicily, B.C. 287. His mathematical science was chiefly exerted at the siege of that city by Marcellus the Roman general. By his mechanical inventions the besieging force was held at bay; the Roman vessels were, by the engines which he constructed, sunk in the sea; while his brazen mirrors, reflecting the concentrated heat of the sun, burnt many others. Contrary to the strict orders of the Roman commander, he was slain on the taking of the city, B.C. 212.

LUDOVICO ARIOSTO,

ONE of the most celebrated poets of Italy, was born at Reggio in Lombardy in 1474. He studied the civil law at Padua, but abandoned the profession to devote himself to literature. He is the author of various dramas, satires, and miscellaneous poems. But the work which has principally immortalized his name is his "Orlando Furioso," published in 1515. An incident is recorded which proves the high estimation in which he was held. It is said that when he was governor of Grafignani he was captured by banditti who infested the Apennines; but, on learning his name, they treated him with the utmost respect, and conducted him in safety to his castle. He died at Ferrari in 1533.

JOSEPH ADDISON,

THE well-known essayist, was born in Wiltshire in 1672, and educated at the Charter House, and Queen's College, Oxford. The celebrity of this distinguished writer can neither be increased by eulogium nor diminished by detraction; suffice it to say that by his various works as preserved in the Tatler, Spectator, Guardian, &c., he raised his native language to the highest pitch of refinement, and drew the attention of the public in general to the fascinating studies of polite literature; while by his "Evidences of the Christian Religion" he performed an acceptable service to the cause of Christianity. His character commanded universal respect, though his manners were reserved and bashful. He died in 1719.

DR. ADAM,

A LEARNED Scotchman, born in 1741 at Rafford, Morayshire. In 1758 he entered the high school of Edinburgh, of which he became assistant in 1761, and head master in 1771. He was remarkable for unwearied application to study, and his diligence is evinced by the works which he produced while engaged in a laborious profession. The principal of these are his "Roman Antiquities," "Summary of Geography and History," "Classical Biography," a compendious Latin Dictionary, &c. Dr. Adam died in 1809, much respected for his literary attainments and general excellence of character. He was honoured with a public funeral.

ALCIBIADES
ARCHIMEDES
SOCRATES
ADDISON
DRYDEN

DR. BURNEY,

A PROFESSOR of music, born at Shrewsbury in 1726. He was employed from 1749 to 1766 in the composition of musical pieces for performance at the Metropolitan theatres. In 1770 and 1772 he travelled on the continent, and afterwards published interesting narratives of his tour. On his return he became a member of the Royal Society, and contributed to the Transactions of that learned body. He died in 1814 at Chelsea Hospital, of which he was organist. Besides the productions above mentioned, he wrote a History of Music, and displayed his knowledge of general literature by his Life of Metastasio, in 3 vols.

DR. ISAAC BARROW.

THIS eminent mathematician and divine was the son of a respectable linendraper of London, in which city he was born in 1630. He was educated at the Charter House, where he was chiefly remarkable for his pugilistic prowess and neglect of study. He afterwards entered Trinity College, Cambridge, and gained the highest reputation for his attainments. In 1663 he was appointed professor of mathematics at Cambridge, where he published his celebrated "Lectiones Opticæ." He died in May 1667, with the reputation of being one of the greatest scholars and divines of England. His theological works were published after his death, in vols. folio, by Dr. Tillotson.

REV. GILBERT BURNET,

A SCOTTISH divine, author of the "History of the Reformation," "Memoirs of the Duke of Hamilton," a history of his own times, and several other works of minor importance. He was born at Edinburgh in 1643, and educated at Aberdeen. In 1687 he settled at the Hague, where he gained the confidence of the prince of Orange, whom, in 1689, he accompanied to England as chaplain, and was subsequently raised to the bishopric of Salisbury. He was an honest, benevolent, and pious man, and a sincere patriot. He died ... 1714-15.

DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM,

THE profligate and time-serving George Villiers, was born at Brookesby in Leicestershire in 1592. James I., attracted by his prepossessing exterior, made him his cup-bearer, and such was the ascendancy which he gained over that monarch that he was speedily raised to the highest offices of the state, and created successively baron, earl, marquis, and duke. His insolence and tyranny rendered him obnoxious to public indignation, and his quixotic expedition to Madrid weakened his influence with James I.; but the accession of Charles I. more firmly established his power. He was shortly after entrusted with the command of an army, the flower of which he lost by an ill-conducted attack on the isle of Rhé; and having returned to England to refit his shattered armament was again about to sail, when he was assassinated by a lieutenant of the army, Aug. 23, 1628.

GODFREY OF BOULOGNE,

CELEBRATED as the hero of Tasso's "Jerusalem Delivered," was born at Bezy near Nivelle. He served under Henry IV. of Germany, by whom he was created duke of Lorraine. In 1096 he took the cross, and headed the crusading army. He was appointed sovereign of Jerusalem on its capture by the crusaders, shortly after which he defeated the sultan of Egypt at Ascalon. He died in 1100.

Dr BURNET
BARROW
BURNET

LORD BOLINGBROKE,

Known before his elevation to the peerage as Henry St. John, one of the accomplished patrons of literature in Anne's reign, the friend of Swift, Pope, and others. He was born at Battersea, near London, in 1672, and studied at Oxford, where he attracted general attention by the brilliancy of his talents. His abilities as a statesman were never disputed: and his political and philosophical writings, as well as his speeches in parliament, claim for him the reputation of a masterly reasoner and elegant writer. He died in 1751.

BERKELEY,

A celebrated prelate and metaphysical philosopher, was born in Ireland in 1681, and educated in Dublin, whence he came over into England, and became acquainted with Swift, Pope, Addison, and the other literati of the age. His works are principally remarkable for the curious theory respecting the non-existence of matter, which exhibits such a mass of metaphysical absurdities as to justify the assertion of a celebrated writer, that there is scarcely any theory, however absurd, which has not been defended by some famous philosopher. Hume adopted this system as favourable to scepticism, and its fallacy was triumphantly exposed by Dr. Beattie. Berkeley was elevated to the bishopric of Cloyne, and died in 1753.

BOSSUET,

A Roman Catholic divine, born at Dijon in Burgundy in 1627. He was educated in Navarre, and became canon of Metz. His reputation as a preacher soon spread to the capital, whither he was invited to repair, and where his fame soon eclipsed that of all his contemporaries. He stands pre-eminent, with Bourdaloue and Massillon, in pulpit eloquence and controversial theology. His "Funeral Orations" are masterpieces of oratory; and in his polemical pieces against Protestantism he displays great learning and acuteness. Nor did his abilities pass unrewarded; he was elevated successively to the sees of Condom and Meaux, and made preceptor to the Dauphin, afterwards Louis XV. He died in 1704. His works, consisting of sermons, orations, &c., have been collected in 20 4to. vols.

BUTLER,

The celebrated author of Hudibras, born at Strensham in Worcestershire, in 1612, and educated at one of the universities, but whether Oxford or Cambridge is much contested. He subsequently became an inmate of the family of Sir S. Luke, who in the civil wars espoused the parliamentary cause. This person is supposed to have been intended as the hero of Hudibras, a poem which may perhaps be pronounced the best burlesque that ever appeared in any language. It was written during the Protectorate, and presented by Lord Dorset to Charles II., who however left the author to live in penury. He died in 1680.

BYNG.

This eminent naval commander, father of the ill-fated victim of ministerial policy, was born in Kent in 1663. After filling with honour and success several important posts, he was sent out as rear-admiral under Sir Cloudesley Shovel, and on his return received the honour of knighthood from queen Anne. In 1708, being made admiral of the blue, he commanded the fleet designed to prevent an invasion by the Pretender. For these and other important services he was rewarded with the peerage. He died in 1733.

BERKELEY
BOSSUET
BUTLER
BYNG

BOCCACE, OR BOCCACCIO.

This eminent Italian poet was descended of humble parents at Certaldo near Florence. Though educated for a mercantile profession, he manifested such an aversion to commercial pursuits, and so great a predilection for literature, that he speedily relinquished all thoughts of the exchange to devote himself entirely to the service of the Muses. He became acquainted with Petrarch, and gained considerable reputation by the composition of various pieces; he was also employed in embassies by Pope Innocent IV. The court of Naples was for a time honoured by his presence, whence he afterwards removed to Certaldo, where he died in 1375. Boccaccio's works, which are numerous, evince profound learning and a fertile imagination, but are by no means free from licentious allusions. Some of his pieces were translated, or rather imitated, by Dryden.

CARDINAL BEATON

Was descended from a French family, and born in Scotland in 1494. He attained the highest political preeminence under James V., and, having entered into orders, was presented with the cardinal's hat and appointed legate of the holy see. But his overbearing violence and haughtiness rendered him an obnoxious minister; while his cruel persecution of the reformers, especially George Wishart, has stamped his name with everlasting infamy. He was assassinated in 1546, at the instigation of some of the Scotch nobility.

LORD BACON,

One of the greatest of modern philosophers, was born at London in 1561, and educated at Cambridge under Dr. Whitgift, afterwards archbishop of Canterbury. He applied himself to the study of the law, in which he rose through various gradations to the dignity of Lord Chancellor. In early life he was patronized by Essex, to whom however he proved a treacherous friend. In the reign of James I. he attained high political honours, but was at length impeached by the parliament on a charge of bribery, in consequence of which he was degraded and treated with signal but merited obloquy. The political principles as well as the moral character of Bacon were highly censurable, but as a philosopher no eulogium can be too lofty for his praise. He died in privacy in 1626.

FRANCIS BEAUMONT.

This celebrated dramatist, brother to Sir John Beaumont, author of "Bosworth Field" and other poems, was born at Grâce Dieu in Leicestershire in 1585, and educated at Oxford. At an early period he became the inseparable companion of Fletcher, and their joint productions were at one period more popular than those of Ben Johnson or Shakspeare. In addition to his merits as a dramatic writer, his poems entitle him to an honourable place among the British bards. He died in 1616.

SIR NICHOLAS BACON,

An eminent English lawyer, and father of the great lord Bacon, was born at Chiselhurst in Kent in 1510, and studied at Cambridge and Grays Inn. He was appointed attorney of the court of wards by Henry VIII. Queen Elizabeth bestowed on him the honour of knighthood, and in 1558 appointed him keeper of the great seal and a member of the privy council, in which station he conducted himself with fidelity and wisdom. He retained the favour of the queen till his death, which occurred in 1579.

BOCCACE
CARDINAL BEATON
L.d BACON
BEAUMONT
Sr N. BACON

BUXTORF.

This profound Hebraist was born at Camen in Westphalia in 1564, and became professor of Hebrew and Chaldee at Basil, in which he was succeeded by his son. His Hebrew works are numerous and important, particularly his Hebrew and Chaldaic Lexicon and Dictionary, and the Hebrew Bible with the Rabbinical and Chaldaic paraphrases, the Massora, &c. He died in 1629.

PETER BURMAN, LL.D.

A celebrated critic and classical scholar, born in 1668 at Utrecht, where and afterwards at Leyden he became professor of rhetoric, history, and Greek literature, and gained high distinction for his lectures. He is the author of numerous philological and critical works, and of Commentaries on Phædrus, Lucan, Petronius, and other profane authors. He died in 1741. An interesting account of his life, written by Dr. Johnson, is given in the Gentleman's Magazine.

HENRY BROOKE,

A writer of considerable reputation, born at Rantavan in Ireland in 1706. He received his education at Trinity College, Dublin, and in 1723 was entered at the Temple, where his genius and vivacity introduced him to the friendship of Smith and Pope, the latter of whom is said to have assisted in revising his poem "On Universal Beauty." During the greater part of his life he had to struggle with pecuniary embarrassments. The most celebrated of his writings is the novel entitled the "Fool of Quality," published in 1766. He died in 1783, and his dramatic and other works were published by his daughter in the following year.

ADMIRAL BLAKE.

This bold and skilful naval commander was born at Bridgewater in 1599, and educated at Oxford. After the death of his father, a rich merchant, he lived for some time in a private manner. In the parliament of 1640 he was returned for Bridgewater, and in the civil war distinguished himself in a military capacity against the royalists. He was highly esteemed by Cromwell for his bravery and talents, and performed valuable services for his country. He died August 27, 1657, and was publicly interred in Henry VII's chapel, but on the Restoration his body was meanly removed to St. Margaret's church-yard.

ROBERT BOYLE,

One of the brightest luminaries of science in the age in which he lived, was born at Lismore in Ireland in 1627; about 1654 he settled at Oxford, and engaged with ardour in the prosecution of researches in experimental philosophy. After the Restoration he was received with favour by the king, and strongly solicited by lord chancellor Clarendon to enter the church, where he had every prospect of obtaining the highest preferments; but his conscientious scruples prevented his compliance. He was one of the first fellows of the Royal Society, and a member of the council. His philosophical writings are very voluminous, and, from the large portion of experimental knowledge and observation of the works of nature which they contain, have proved a fertile storehouse of facts from which many subsequent discoveries have been derived. He also wrote many theological tracts, and on his death in 1691 bequeathed £50 a year for the endowment of a lecture on the evidences of Christianity.

BUXTORF
BURMAN
BROOKE
BLAKE
BOYLE

BUFFON.

This distinguished writer on natural history was born in 1707 at Montbard in Burgundy, and educated at Dijon for the legal profession, which however he abandoned in order to devote his time to the cultivation of mathematical and physical science. His principal work, "Histoire Naturelle, Générale et Particulière," of which numerous translations and editions have been published, affords abundant evidence of his talents and industry; the style is correct and eloquent, and he displays a spirit of philosophical observation which must always be interesting and instructive. His moral character was however unworthy of his talents, and his vanity was contemptible. He died in 1783.

JOHN DE BALIOL,

The son of a rich and leading baron in the reign of Henry III., to whose cause he adhered in his troubles with the barons. His wealth and influence were greatly increased by his marriage with Devorgille, one of the coheiresses of Allan of Galloway, a great baron of Scotland, of which kingdom his son John Baliol obtained the temporary possession. In 1283 he laid the foundation of Baliol College, Oxford, and it was completed after his death (which occurred in 1629) by his widow.

BARNEVELDT,

A Dutch statesman of great integrity and patriotism, was born in 1549, and was early employed by the states-general in various negociations with France, England, and the neighbouring powers, and appointed grand pensionary of the States of Holland. His opposition to the ambitious projects of prince Maurice rendered him obnoxious to that vindictive prince, who eventually succeeded in having him capitally convicted on the groundless charge of betraying his country to the Spaniards. This iniquitous sentence was carried into execution in May 1619.

BOILEAU.

This celebrated poet was born at Crone, near Paris, in 1636, and received his education at the colleges of Harcourt and Beauvais. He was subsequently placed with a relative, an eminent member of the long robe, with a view to the legal profession, who soon sent him home as an incorrigible dunce. His real talents remained unknown till the publication of his satire, "Les Adieux à Paris," which was followed in 1666 by seven satires, with an introduction addressed to the king, which introduced him to royal favour and patronage. The most esteemed of his writings are his Epistle, after the model of those of Horace. His character was amiable and benevolent, and on his death in 1711 he bequeathed the principal part of his property to charitable purposes.

ROBERT BRUCE.

This valiant Scottish chieftain was a descendant of David, brother to William I. He for some time fought under the English banners, but subsequently asserted his right to the sovereignty of Scotland, and was crowned at Scone in 1306. At the outset of his career he experienced many reverses; and at one period, when almost disposed to relinquish his enterprise in despair, he is said to have been encouraged by the perseverance of a spider, which, after being foiled in nine attempts to reach a certain point, still persisted and succeeded. His celebrated victory over Edward II. at the battle of Bannockburn, in 1314, established him firmly on the throne. He died in 1329.

BUFFON
BAILLI
BARNEVELT
BOILEAU
BADOU

DR. BLAIR,

The son of a respectable merchant of Edinburgh, in which city he was born in 1718. He entered on the duties of a parish minister at Colessie in Fife in 1741, subsequently officiated for 11 years at the Canongate church, and in 1758 was raised to the high church of Edinburgh, where he continued till his death in 1800. His Lectures on Composition, first delivered at the university, gained him such reputation that in 1762 the king founded a professorship of rhetoric and belles lettres, and appointed him professor. His published Sermons are esteemed chiefly for the purity and elegance of their composition, and his "Lectures" form a popular and able digest of the rules of eloquence.

ROBERT BURNS,

An illustrious instance of celebrity acquired by unassisted genius, was born near Ayr in 1759. His early education was very scanty; but his ardent thirst for knowledge led him to study the best English poets, and he soon astonished the world by his youthful effusions. He engaged in various agricultural occupations, all of which failed; and although he obtained a considerable sum by his poems (which rendered him at once the idol of his nation, and the favourite of the great), his profligate habits dissipated his fortune, and on his death, in 1796, his family was left to the charity of the public. The compositions of Burns are distinguished by humour, pathos, and energy of description.

LORD BYRON.

This distinguished bard, the pride of modern English poesy, was descended from Captain Byron, the well known traveller, and born in 1788. His works stand too high in the estimation of the literary world to need commendation; they are characterized by the highest attributes of genius; but his profligate life and sceptical opinions render him an object of virtuous detestation to all who regard the welfare of society, or desire to promote morality and religion. He died at Missolonghi, April 17, 1824.

BEATTIE,

A poet and moral philosopher, was born in Scotland in 1735, and educated at Marischal College, Aberdeen, where he subsequently became professor of ethics. He published an Essay in refutation of Hume's sceptical tenets, which procured him high popularity. The university of Oxford presented him with a diploma of LL. D., and George III. gave him a pension. His poems, particularly the "Minstrel," evince him to have been an ardent and successful admirer of the Muses. He afterwards wrote the "Elements of Moral Science," and an elaborate defence of the Christian religion. He died in 1803.

BURKE.

This celebrated statesman and parliamentary orator was born in 1703. His first literary exhibition was an anonymous pamphlet on "Natural Society," feigned to be the production of Bolingbroke, whose style of reasoning and language he so happily imitated as to deceive many of the most penetrating critics. In 1757 he gave to the world the "Essay on the Sublime and Beautiful," which evinced his strength of imagination and philosophical powers. But it was in the senate that Burke shone with the greatest brilliancy: his speeches in parliament have crowned him with unfading laurels, and at his death, which happened in 1797, England certainly lost one of the greatest masters in the art of oratory.

BURNS
BEATTIE
BURKE

JOHN BERNOUILLI.

This eminent mathematician and natural philosopher was born in 1668 at Basil, where he was educated with a view to mercantile pursuits; but subsequently devoted himself to the study of philosophy, and in 1695 became professor of mathematics in the university of Groningen, and afterwards at Basil. He is the author of various mathematical treatises, and the discoverer of what was called the mercurial phosphorus, an electrical phenomenon occasioned by the friction of mercury on a glass tube. He died in 1748.

JAMES BERNOUILLI,

Elder brother of the preceding, whom he excelled in mathematical talents, was born at Basil in 1655, and educated for the church, but was allowed to indulge his predilection for mathematical and philosophical pursuits. In 1684 he made the valuable discovery relating to the differential calculus which has given him such great celebrity, and in 1687 became professor of mathematics at Basil, where his lectures obtained for him the highest reputation. He was subsequently chosen a member of several learned societies, and contributed to the Transactions of the Royal Academies of Paris and Berlin. He died in 1705. His mathematical works were published at Geneva in 1744.

LORD BERKELEY.

This nobleman, who possessed all the elegance and politeness of Chesterfield, without his literary talents, is generally supposed to have been the original of Wycherly's Lord Plausible in the "Plain Dealer." He was raised to the peerage in 1679, as the reward of his attachment to Charles I., and his zeal for the Restoration. He is said to be the author of a work, which appears long since to have passed into oblivion, entitled "Historical Applications and Meditations on Various Subjects."

FIRST EARL OF BEDFORD,

John, the son of James Russell, esq., was born about the year 1480. In 1506 he was introduced to Henry VII., who made him a gentleman of the privy chamber. Soon after the accession of Henry VIII. his intrepidity and bravery at the siege of Therouenne recommended him to the favour of that monarch, by whom he was employed in various negociations, and as a reward for his services was raised to the peerage in 1538. The dignity of earl of Bedford was conferred on him in 1550, and he continued in the enjoyment of royal favour during the short reign of Edward VI. and the commencement of that of queen Mary, notwithstanding his adherence to the principles of the Reformation. His death took place in 1555.

FOURTH EARL OF BEDFORD.

Francis, the only son of baron Thornhaugh, succeeded on the death of his cousin to the earldom of Bedford. He distinguished himself by his steady and patriotic opposition to the arbitrary measures of Charles I., and his name has justly become associated with the patrons of civil and religious liberty. He was, however, averse to the violence of the popular faction, which he strenuously laboured to moderate, and, when it was determined to sacrifice the earl of Strafford, he exerted all his influence, though in vain, to save the life of that unfortunate nobleman. His death was occasioned by small-pox in 1641.

EARL OF BERKELEY

BUCHANAN.

The tutor of James I., as also of the celebrated Crichton, was born in 1506, and educated at Paris and St. Andrews. He twice visited the continent, where the freedom of his opinions, and his satires against the monks, exposed him to frequent persecution. In 1560 he returned to Scotland, where his talents and learning procured him several lucrative situations from the court. He however afterwards stained his character by joining against the unfortunate Mary with Elizabeth's ministers, in defence of whose measures he employed his pen. Buchanan died in 1582. His Latin poems surpass all others of modern times; and his "History of Scotland" is written with elegance and vigour.

LORD BURLEIGH,

The son of Sir Richard Cecil, master of the robes to Henry VIII., was born at Bourne in Lincolnshire in 1520, and educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, where he gave early indications of superior talent. He was subsequently entered at Gray's Inn with a view to the legal profession, but, being introduced to the notice of the king, he was encouraged to push his fortune at court. In the reign of Edward III. he was patronized by the Protector Somerset, on whose disgrace he suffered a temporary imprisonment in the Tower. On the accession of queen Elizabeth he was appointed privy counsellor and secretary of state, subsequently raised to the peerage, and appointed lord high treasurer. Lord Burleigh is generally regarded as the ablest minister of an able reign. He died in 1598.

ANNE BOLEYN,

The unfortunate consort of Henry VIII., and mother of queen Elizabeth, was born in 1507. On her return from France, in 1527, she became maid of honour to queen Catherine, when she attracted the attention of the monarch himself, to whom she was united in 1533. But she had espoused a cruel and unprincipled tyrant, who scrupled not to sacrifice youth and beauty at the shrine of his inordinate passions. Henry soon transferred his affections to Jane Seymour, and caused Anne to be executed on an accusation of infidelity. She was beheaded with her brother, Lord Rochford, May 13, 1536.

ROGER BACON.

This wonderful man was born at Ilchester in Somersetshire, in 1214. He studied at Oxford and Paris, and became a Franciscan monk. His lectures and experiments, which evinced a knowledge of science far exceeding that of his most noted contemporaries, soon procured him popular admiration, as well as persecution from ignorant ecclesiastics. Bacon was accused of being a magician; his lectures were prohibited, and he was confined to his cell. Here he poured forth the treasures of a capacious intellect, in the composition of several treatises. He died in 1292.

THEODORE BEZA,

One of the most eminent of the reformers, was born in the province of Nivernois in 1519. He was originally a Catholic; but in 1548 visited Geneva, and publicly abjured popery. His talents and erudition raised him to the office of Greek professor at Lausanne, where he wrote, at the request of Calvin, a treatise on the right of punishing heretics. Beza was employed as deputy in several ecclesiastical conferences; he took a prominent part in the religious government of Geneva; and, after a laborious and active life, died in 1605.

BUCHANAN
ANNE BOLEYN
ROGER BACON
BEZA

BOSCAWEN,

A BRAVE and skilful English admiral, was a native of Cornwall, and born in 1711. He entered the navy at an early age, and in 1740 distinguished himself in the Spanish war. Rising from rank to rank to the post of rear-admiral, he was sent to India, where he gained Madras to his country, and obtained, on his return to England, a seat at the Admiralty board. He afterwards signalized himself in conjunction with lord Amherst in 1758, at Cape Breton. For these and other services he was rewarded by a pension, the thanks of parliament, and the rank of general of the marines. His death took place in 1760.

BOSWELL,

THE intimate friend and biographer of Dr. Johnson, was born at Edinburgh in 1740. Having been admitted an advocate in the Scottish courts, he distinguished himself by taking a prominent part in a lawsuit relative to the titles and estates of the duke of Douglas, and wrote afterwards a pamphlet on the subject. In 1768 he published his account of Corsica, with "Memoirs of General Paoli," a work containing much interesting information, and no little egotism. His "Memoir of Dr. Johnson" is considered one of the most interesting pieces of biography in the English language. He died May 19, 1795.

SIR JOSEPH BANKS,

A DISTINGUISHED naturalist, born in 1743 at Revesby Abbey in Leicestershire. A strong predilection for natural history prompting him to explore foreign countries, he embarked in 1763 on a voyage to Labrador and Newfoundland; and in 1768 he accompanied Cook in his first voyage round the world. In 1778 he was elected president of the Royal Society, of which he had for some time been an active member. His published writings consist of papers in the Philosophical Transactions, the Archæologia, the Transactions of the Horticultural Society, and other periodical works, and a Tract on the causes of Mildew and Rust in Wheat. He retained the presidency of the Royal Society till his death, May 9, 1820.

SIR WILLIAM BLACKSTONE,

AN eminent English lawyer, born in London in 1723, and educated at the Charter House, and Pembroke College, Oxford. He entered the Middle Temple in 1741, when he wrote an elegant valedictory poem, entitled "the Lawyer's Farewell to his Muse," which appeared in Doddsley's Miscellany. His celebrated "Commentaries" afford an elaborate and popular exposition and defence of the English laws and constitution. He uniformly leans to the side of prerogative, and his notions with regard to religious toleration are extremely contracted. His death took place in 1780.

BRUCE,

A MODERN traveller of considerable celebrity, was born at Kinnaird-house in Stirlingshire in 1730, and educated at the University of Edinburgh. In 1763, by the interest of lord Halifax, he was appointed consul at Algiers. He subsequently visited various parts of Asia Minor, accompanied by an Italian artist, who executed drawings of the ruins of Palmyra, Balbec, and other remains of antiquity, which he presented to his sovereign. In 1768 he proceeded on his famous journey to discover the sources of the Nile. The Narrative of his Travels, published in 1796, comprises much interesting information, though the critics have doubted his veracity. His death took place in 1794.

BOSCAWEN
BOSWELL
SR JOSEPH BANKS
SR WM BLACKSTONE
BRUCE

CREBILLON,

A French dramatist, born at Dijon in 1674. At an early period he determined to devote his talents to the tragic muse, and, though unsuccessful in his first attempts, he subsequently obtained considerable reputation. The most popular of his productions was his "Rhadamistus," which appeared in 1711. While composing his tragedies he was accustomed to walk briskly, at the same time repeating his thoughts aloud with great vehemence, and the story of his being mistaken for a maniac while thus occupied in the Jardin du Roi at Paris is well known. His death took place in 1762.

CUNNINGHAM,

An Irish poet, author of the celebrated "Pastorals," which are so much admired for their simplicity and correctness of description. He was born at Dublin in 1729, and at the age of 17 wrote a farce entitled "Love in a Mist." He subsequently joined a company of strolling players, and in this way continued to earn a scanty subsistence till his death in 1773. His poetical pieces are highly esteemed, and have been admitted into the collections of the British poets.

CHURCHILL,

A poet and satirist of the last century. Though refused admission into the university on the ground of classical insufficiency, he was ordained by the bishop of London, after private study, and obtained a living. The embarrassments occasioned by his extravagant habits at length induced him to seek emolument from his pen. In 1761 he published the "Rosciad," containing many lively strokes of satire, and superior in diction and versification. His talents excited general applause, and led him into the company of the first wits of the age, an association, however, which proved dangerous to his morals. Churchill died in 1764.

LORD CHATHAM,

The son of Robert Pitt, esq., of Bocounock in Cornwall, and one of the most upright and talented statesmen of England, was born in 1708, and educated at Eton, and at Trinity College, Oxford. His first appearance in parliament was in 1735, when he was returned for Old Sarum. For many years he exerted himself with uncommon eloquence and force of argument in opposing the measures of the ministry, but in 1746 he was appointed treasurer of Ireland, paymaster-general of the army, and a privy counsellor. Amidst the numerous changes of those changing times, he remained the zealous and powerful advocate of liberal principles, whether on the ministerial or opposition side, and the boldness and eloquence with which he opposed the American war have obtained for him an imperishable name. He was raised to the peerage in 1766, and died in 1778.

LORD CLARENDON.

Edward Hide, afterwards earl of Clarendon, was born in 1608 at Dinton in Wiltshire, and studied at Magdalen Hall, Oxford, and the Middle Temple. During the civil war he took part with the royalists, and was knighted by Charles I., who also appointed him chancellor of the exchequer and a privy counsellor. On the ascendency of the popular party he retired to Jersey, but after the Restoration he was elected chancellor of the University of Oxford, and raised to the peerage. In 1667 he was impeached by the House of Commons, in consequence of which he retired into France, where he died in 1764.

CREBILLON
CUNNINGHAM
CHURCHILL
EARL OF CHATHAM
EARL OF CLARENDON

CONGREVE,

One of the wittiest but most licentious poets of the British Augustan age, was born in 1670, educated in Dublin, and entered as a student at the Temple. His first dramatic piece was acted in 1693, and procured him at once fame and affluence. Being patronized by the earl of Halifax, he obtained several lucrative situations; to which, on the accession of George I., was added a profitable sinecure. His compositions are characterized by correctness and elegance, with gay and sprightly satire; but the extreme indelicacy which reigns throughout renders them highly pernicious.

COWPER,

An approved English poet, was born at Berkhampstead in Hertfordshire, in 1731, and educated at Westminster school, where his delicate health and reserved disposition exposed him to treatment that tinged his future life with melancholy. He afterwards entered the Temple as a student of the law; but seems never to have practised. The nervous sensibility of his temperament was such that, when appointed clerk of the rolls in the House of Peers, he relinquished the situation through the dread of publicity. In 1782 appeared the first volume of his poems, which soon gained popularity. He died in 1800 at Dereham in Norfolk. His works are characterized by ease, humour, and playful satire, combined with the highest moral sentiments.

CATHERINE II.

This princess, the glory and disgrace of the Russian name, was born in 1729, and was united in 1745 to Peter, afterwards emperor of Russia, on whose deposition and death she was crowned empress. A series of hostilities ensued against the Ottoman Porte, by which the Turkish power was much weakened, and Cuban and the Crimea were annexed to her dominions. Her death, however, prevented the execution of her ambitious schemes in 1796. The domestic policy of Catherine is beyond all praise: she ruled with mildness and equity, and greatly promoted the civilization of her subjects. But her private life was disgraced by open and shameless profligacy.

CANOVA,

One of the most celebrated sculptors of modern times, was born in 1757 at Passagno, a small village in the Venetian territory, where his talents early attracted the attention of Falieri, who took him under his protection, and committed him to the tuition of Turetti, an eminent sculptor of Vienna. His genius procured him the friendship and patronage of the great, and he subsequently obtained a splendid fortune. His numerous works have obtained the highest celebrity in the art of sculpture. He died at Venice in 1822.

EDWARD CAVE,

A native of Warwickshire, who has attained notoriety principally for establishing a periodical magazine at a time when this species of literature was unknown in England. He was born at Newton in 1691, and educated at Rugby school. After serving his apprenticeship to a printer in London, he obtained a situation in the post-office, and employed his leisure in writing for the newspapers. On being dismissed from his employment, in consequence of having resisted some abuses relative to the privilege of franking letters, he entered into business in Smithfield, and in January 1731 published the first number of the "Gentleman's Magazine," which he continued till his death in 1754.

CONGREVE
COWPER
CATERINE 2
CANOVA
CANE

AUGUSTINE CARACCI,

THE cousin of Lewis, and brother of Annibal, was born in 1558. He was originally intended for a goldsmith, but, evincing a taste for painting, was induced by his cousin to commence the study of the art. After visiting Parma with Annibal he went to Venice, where, under the tuition of Cornelius de Cort, he became one of the most famous engravers of his time. On Annibal's visit to Rome, Augustine accompanied him, and his general knowledge and poetical taste proved highly serviceable in the joint execution of the Farnèse paintings. He was afterwards employed by the duke of Parma; and died in 1602.

LEWIS CARACCI.

THIS celebrated Italian painter, the founder of the Caracci school, was born at Bologna in 1555. He studied under Fontana and Tintoretto, but with so little apparent success that his instructors despaired of his ever attaining excellence, and his fellow-students combined to ridicule his dulness. But he soon proved to their surprise that his supposed incapacity was really the effect of study and mature reflection; his powers suddenly emerged from obscurity, and were exerted in the production of works of art which excited the astonishment of Europe. He died in 1619.

CORREGIO,

A PAINTER of the highest celebrity, and founder of the Lombard school, was born at Corregio, a small town in the duchy of Parma, about the year 1490. So little were the fine arts appreciated at that period that his transcendant genius, accompanied by persevering industry, failed to raise him from a state of poverty. He died of a pleurisy, occasioned by drinking at a spring, when overcome by heat and fatigue in 1534. Sir Joshua Reynolds describes his colour and mode of finishing as approaching nearer to perfection than those of any other painter. The Assumption of the Virgin, in the cathedral of Parma, is considered the most splendid effort of his genius.

CLAUDE LORRAINE,

A CELEBRATED landscape painter, was born of obscure parents in 1600, in Lorraine, whence he obtained his surname. He was apprenticed to a pastry-cook, whom he soon deserted, and, after trying different occupations, he was employed by a painter, from whom he acquired a knowledge of the art. After several years practice he settled at Rome, where his works were in great request, and himself the object of universal admiration. His fame continued to spread far and wide till his death, which happened at an advanced age, in 1682. The real instructress of Claude was Nature, and his proficiency under such tuition was amply displayed by his splendid representations of landscape scenery.

ANNIBAL CARACCI,

THE most distinguished of the family, was the younger brother of Augustine, and surpassed both him and Lewis in colouring and general effect, though he was inferior in point of taste and judgment. He was born in 1560, and, after studying with his cousin at Bologna, visited Parma to view and improve upon the works of Corregio: Paul Veronese and Titian were also his models. His fame rising high, cardinal Farnèse sent for him to Rome to paint his celebrated gallery, which employed the pencil of Annibal for eight years. His death took place in 1609.

AUGS CARACCI
LEWIS CARACCI
CORREGIO
CLAUDE
ANS CARACCI

CAPTAIN COOK.

This far-famed circumnavigator was born at Whitby in Yorkshire in 1728. He possessed but few advantages of education; but nature had endowed him with quick discernment and an enterprising genius. He entered the navy in 1755, and, being sent out to America as master of a vessel, displayed such skill in geographical calculations as to procure him the appointment of marine surveyor on his return to England. He was subsequently entrusted with the conduct of the expeditions to the antarctic pole, and twice circumnavigated the globe. He was killed at Hawii in 1779.

CHARLES XII.

This famous conqueror was born at Stockholm in 1682. At the age of eighteen he ascended the throne of Sweden, and commenced hostilities against Denmark, Poland, and Muscovy, which powers had combined against him. He defeated the Danish king, dethroned the Polish monarch, and gained a signal victory at Narva over the czar Peter Alexiowitz; but the ease with which he overthrew his enemies rendered him negligent and careless, while the skill which the Swedish troops displayed taught the wily Peter the art of war. Success no longer smiled upon Charles, and, after a series of adverse circumstances, the decisive battle of Pultowa dispersed the Swedish army, and obliged their leader to flee into Turkey. He returned in 1713 to Sweden, and, after in vain attempting to retrieve his fortunes, was killed at Fredericshall in 1718. This monarch has been styled the Alexander of the North. His ambition was unbounded, but his character, except in the case of the unfortunate Pathul was unstained by acts of cruelty.

COUNTESS OF CUMBERLAND.

Margaret, youngest daughter of the 2d earl of Bedford, was born in 1560, and united to George Clifford earl of Cumberland in 1577. Her affability and benevolence secured general esteem, while she appears to have possessed in no ordinary degree that high spirit which afterwards conspicuously distinguished her daughter, Anne Clifford, countess of Pembroke.

CUMBERLAND.

This well-known dramatist and miscellaneous writer was related to bishop Cumberland, and to Bentley the celebrated critic. He was born at Cambridge in 1732. After receiving a college education, he visited Ireland, as secretary to the earl of Halifax. His first productions attracted but little notice; but "The Brothers," and the "West Indian," published in 1771, established his reputation as one of the first dramatic writers of the day. He was employed by the government, in 1780, in a secret negociation with Spain and Portugal. After his return he continued his literary career till his decease in 1811. As a dramatist, a novelist, and an essayist, he evinces considerable talent.

GEORGE COLMAN,

A British dramatist, born at Florence in 1733, but educated at Westminster school, and at Oxford, where, in conjunction with Bonnel Thornton, he published "The Connoisseur." His first dramatic piece appeared in 1760. Besides a number of comedies, which were well received, he wrote "The Genius," and many other pieces, in the St. James's Chronicle, and translated Terence, and Horace's "Art of Poetry," to the latter of which he added a valuable commentary. He ultimately became deranged, and died in a lunatic asylum in 1784.

COOK
CHARLES 12.
CUMBERLAND
COLMAN

CHAUCER,

The father of English poetry, was born, according to the best authors, in 1328, and educated at both universities. Through the patronage of John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, he obtained various lucrative situations, and was employed in embassies to foreign countries. He embraced the opinions of Wicliffe, which exposed him to considerable persecution. He died in 1400. The poems of Chaucer evince surprising genius; but his diction is quite obsolete. His works have been modernized by Dryden.

CERVANTES,

The pride of Spanish literature, was born in 1547, of a family more distinguished by descent than fortune. He visited Italy at an early age, and engaged as a volunteer in the service of the popedom. During his military career Cervantes was captured by an Algerine corsair, and detained in slavery for six years; but after a series of romantic adventures he regained his liberty, returned to Spain, and commenced his literary labours. He published various poems and romances, all of which have been eclipsed by his Don Quixote, which has spread the fame of its author through the civilized world. He died in 1617.

CHARLES I.

This unfortunate and misguided monarch, whose tragical fate, in spite of political prejudices, has claimed for him the sympathy of posterity, was born in Scotland in 1600. By the death of prince Henry he became heir apparent to the English throne, which he ascended in 1625. From his early intimacy with Buckingham, and union with the imperious Henrietta, Charles imbibed notions of regal authority repugnant to the general feelings of the nation; his arbitrary and oppressive measures, being resisted by the parliament, gave rise to a protracted war, which terminated in the defeat of the king, who was brought to the scaffold, Jan. 30, 1649.

OLIVER CROMWELL,

The Protector, was born in 1599 at Huntingdon, for which place he became one of the representatives in 1625. In the long parliament he sat for Cambridge. He was extremely active in promoting the famous remonstrance of 1641, from which time he was admitted to the most secret councils of the opposition. In 1642 he commenced his military career, which eventually terminated in raising him to the summit of authority and power, under the title of Lord Protector of the Commonwealth. The character of this extraordinary man has been very differently estimated by political partisans; but it must be admitted that during his usurpation he secured the due administration of justice and nobly sustained the honour of his country. He died in 1658.

CHARLES II.

This gay and dissolute prince was born in 1630. On the death of his father, Charles I., he took refuge in Holland, and after an ineffectual attempt to regain the throne narrowly escaped with his life to France. He was at length (1660) put in peaceable possession of the crown through the influence of general Monk. The affability of his manners, and the liveliness of his wit, rendered him at first highly popular; but the arbitrary measures to which he was driven in order to support his extravagant and profligate course excited discontent and led to some conspiracies. The reign of Charles II. was the era of the most dissolute manners that ever prevailed in England. He died in 1685.

CHAUCER
CERVANTES
CHARLES I
CROMWELL
CHARLES II

CHARLEMAGNE,

Emperor of the west, and king of France, was born in 742 at Saltzburg in Bavaria. On the death of his father, Pepin the Short, in 768, he succeeded to the crown in conjunction with his brother Carloman, whose death in 771 left him sole monarch of the Franks. He was eminent for his bravery and talents, and for the liberality with which he patronized literature and the arts. He died at Aix-la-Chapelle in 814, with the reputation of being the most ambitious monarch, the ablest politician, and the greatest warrior of the age.

CLOVIS I.

Clovis, Ludovoisc, or Louis, the son and successor of Childeric I., king of Batavia, was born in 467. He became professedly a convert to the Christian faith, and, on pretence of zeal for the conversion of the Visigoths, invaded their territories, of which a considerable portion was ceded to him. By the basest means he succeeded in reducing the independent states of Gaul under his authority, and was at length acknowledged king of all the Franks. He died at Paris (which he had made his capital) in 511, after a reign of thirty years.

CHARLES V,

The eldest son of Philip, archduke of Austria, was born at Ghent in 1500. On the death of his grandfather Ferdinand, in 1516, he succeeded to the crown of Spain, and three years afterwards was elected emperor of Germany. His contests with Francis I. of France, who had been a competitor with him for the imperial dignity, exercised an important influence in disturbing the peace of Europe. Towards the close of his life he relinquished the cares of government, and retired to a convent, where he died in 1558.

ARCHBISHOP CRANMER

Was born at Aslacton in Northamptonshire in 1489, and educated at Cambridge. By his superior talents, and persevering diligence, he became mainly instrumental in promoting the Reformation of the English church, though his character was disgraced by the part which he took in gratifying the base passions of Henry, and by his participation in the persecuting spirit inseparable from bigotry, to which he himself became a victim. After the accession of Mary he was induced by fair promises to recant his opinions, notwithstanding which he was brought to the stake, March 21, 1556. His noble confession and his fortitude at the hour of death have thrown a lustre around his memory which, in spite of his weaknesses and errors, appears to have been merited.

CALVIN.

This learned and pious divine, one of the most eminent of the continental reformers, was born in 1509, in Picardy. He embraced at an early period the Protestant faith, and leaving France settled at Basil, where he published his "Institutes of the Christian Religion." He subsequently removed to Geneva, and occupied the theological chair in that city. His influence was almost absolute; the church of Geneva was regulated by his opinions, both in doctrines and discipline. He died in 1564. The peculiarities of his theological creed are still very extensively received. His piety and talents are unquestionable; but his character was not free from that intolerant spirit which distinguished even the martyrs to papal persecution.

CHARLEMAGNE
CLOVIS I
CHARLES 5
CRANMER
CALVIN

CORTEZ.

This brave but blood-stained conqueror was born of a noble family in 1485. He was sent to Salamanca to study the law; but, preferring a military life, entered the army. The discovery of America having opened to Spain a field for daring enterprise, the conquest of Mexico was projected, and Cortez was entrusted with the conduct of the expedition. His success on this occasion, though ill rewarded by his sovereign, has given him a high rank among valiant adventurers; but his unparalleled barbarity to the aboriginal inhabitants proves him to have been also a monster of cruelty. He died in 1554.

COLUMBUS,

The renowned discoverer of the American continent, was a Genoese by descent, and born in 1441. His early predilection for a maritime life led to frequent voyages to different parts of the globe, by which he attained much knowledge of astronomy, cosmography, and practical geometry. His investigations into these subjects, aided by his residence at Lisbon, gave rise to conjectures respecting the existence of a western hemisphere, which, after much perseverance, he succeeded in discovering. The honour of naming the newly-found territory was however surreptitiously obtained by Vespacius, a subsequent adventurer. Columbus died in 1505.

CATHERINE,

Daughter of Ferdinand of Arragon, and consort of Henry VIII., was born in 1483. In 1501 she was married to Arthur, prince of Wales, who dying five months afterwards, she was contracted to prince Henry. In his 15th year Henry publicly protested against the marriage, but was subsequently prevailed upon to ratify the contract, and on his accession to the throne in 1509 Catherine was crowned with him. Her amiable and affectionate deportment was however insufficient to secure the affections of this capricious monarch, who, to gratify his passion for Anne Boleyn, affected scruples as to the legality of his marriage, and applied to Rome for a divorce. The conduct of the pope in this affair induced Henry to throw off the papal yoke, and the sentence of divorce was pronounced by archbishop Cranmer. Catherine afterwards resided at Kimbolton castle in Huntingdonshire till her death, which took place in 1536.

COSMO DE MEDICI.

This prince was born in 1519, and elected chief of the republic of Florence on the death of Alexander. In 1569 he received from pope Pius V. the title of grand duke of Tuscany, and was crowned at Rome. He is particularly celebrated for his liberal encouragement of literature and the fine arts. He died in 1574, after a distinguished reign of 38 years.

CHRYSOSTOM,

One of the Christian fathers, so named on account of his eloquence, was born about the year 344, and was educated for the bar, but quitted this profession for an ascetic life. After spending six years in retirement, he returned to Antioch, where he gained such reputation for his piety and oratorical talents that he was at length appointed patriarch of Constantinople. He however incurred the resentment of the empress Eudoxia, who procured his deposition and banishment. He died in exile in 407. His writings are voluminous, and much esteemed for the information they contain relative to the customs and manners of the times.

CORTEX
COLUBRUS
S. CHRYSOSTOM

DRYDEN,

THE father of criticism, and the great improver of English versification, was born at Aldwinkle, Northamptonshire, in 1631. Having received a liberal education, he soon began to cultivate poetry, and published some encomiastic verses on the death of Oliver Cromwell. On the restoration of the monarchical power, in 1660, he, with the parasitical spirit natural to those who intrigue for patronage, exerted his talents in eulogizing the new sovereign. This soon recommended him to royal favour, by which he obtained the appointment of poet-laureat. He published various dramatic pieces, which stamped him as the first poet of the age, though the licentious allusions with which they abound expose him to the severest reprobation. He enjoyed high reputation from that period to his death, which occurred in 1700. His numerous works were unrivalled for merit and fame during his time, and still continue to be highly popular.

DANTE.

THIS celebrated Italian poet was born in 1265. His genius was nurtured under the tuition of Brunetto Latini, who soon discovered in his pupil indications of precocious talent, which was afterwards exhibited in those works that have immortalized his name, and adorned the literature of his country. He took part in both military and political transactions, and was raised to posts of civil dignity; but the prevalence of an opposite faction deprived him of his honours, and embittered by persecution the remainder of his days. He died in 1321.

ANNE DACIER,

A LADY of great literary talents, born in 1651 at Saumur. She became early distinguished for her attachment to Greek and Roman literature; and at the age of 22 published an edition of the works of Callimachus, which was so highly esteemed that she was engaged as an editress of some of the classics for the use of the dauphin; but the patronage of royalty was withheld on account of her being a Protestant. She was married in 1683 to Andrew Dacier, who was himself a learned and indefatigable man, and in conjunction with whom she was constantly occupied in literary pursuits. Her conduct in private life was highly exemplary. Her death took place in 1720. Among her numerous works translations of Homer, Anacreon, Terence, and Sappho, are most conspicuous.

LORD DUNCAN,

A DISTINGUISHED naval officer, born at Lundie in Angusshire in 1731. He entered the navy at an early age, and in his 30th year became a post-captain. He distinguished himself at the siege of the Havannah, and in 1779 shared in the victory of Admiral Rodney over the Spaniards. After rising gradually through the intermediate ranks he became vice-admiral of the white in 1794. His subsequent victory over a Dutch squadron, which greatly contributed to the naval glory of his country, was rewarded by the title of viscount and a pension of £2000 a year. He died in 1804.

GERARD DOW,

A CELEBRATED Dutch painter, born at Leyden in 1613. The distinguishing characteristic of his paintings consists in their uniting a peculiar delicacy of finish with the most brilliant and harmonious colouring. His fancy subjects surpass those of every other painter of the Dutch school. He died at Leyden in 1674.

DRYDEN
DANTE
ANN DACIER
LE HUNCAN
GERARD DOW

DOMENICHINO,

Or Domenico Zampieri, an eminent painter of the Caracci school, born at Bologna in 1581. In lively representation he was surpassed by few painters, and he succeeded equally in the grand and the tender. Under the pontificate of Gregory XV. he was made chief architect of the apostolical palace. His life was however greatly embittered by the envy which his superior merit excited in his contemporaries. Among the finest of his works are The Death of St. Agnes, and The Cure of the Demoniac Boy. He died in 1641.

ALBERT DURER,

A WELL-KNOWN German artist, born at Nuremberg in 1471. His father was a goldsmith; but Albert, evincing a taste for design, was placed with a painter, in whose art, as well as in engraving, he soon proved a great proficient. He was also versed in anatomy, architecture, and geometry. His skill in engraving is displayed by many rare specimens in the cabinets of the virtuosi; and Nuremberg and other cities are enriched by the productions of his pencil. The emperor Charles V. honoured him with a patent of nobility, and he had a seat in the council of his native city, where he continued to reside till his death, which occurred in 1528. From the air of fidelity, strength, and dignity, with which he represented nature, Durer has been considered as the Homer of painting.

LORD DARNLEY.

THIS nobleman is remarkable in Scottish history as the husband of Mary, daughter of James V., and afterwards queen of Scotland, to whom he was united in 1565. His influence with the court of France was frequently advantageous to Mary, in prosecuting the war with her insurgent subjects. His death took place in 1567, under tragical and highly suspicious circumstances; and it is to be feared that his consort acquiesced in the diabolical scheme to gratify her illicit passion for Bothwell.

SIR W. DUGDALE.

THIS celebrated antiquary was born in 1605, at Shustoke in Warwickshire; studied at Oxford, and soon displayed his peculiar genius by laborious antiquarian researches, the result of which he subsequently gave to the world. In 1644 he was appointed Chester Herald, and at the Restoration he received the honour of knighthood, and was made garter principal king at arms. He died in 1686. Among his works, which are numerous, are the "Antiquities of Warwickshire," and a "History of St. Paul's Cathedral."

SIR F. DRAKE,

THE first English circumnavigator, was born at Tavistock in 1545. He commenced a maritime life under sir John Hawkins, his relative; and conducted several expeditions to the western hemisphere, in which he obtained considerable booty. He also fought under the earl of Essex in Ireland. In 1577, sailing westward to attack the Spaniards, he discovered and took possession of New Albion, and returned across the Pacific Ocean to Britain. Queen Elizabeth knighted him, and raised him to the post of admiral. Plymouth, which he represented in parliament, is indebted to him for causing the town to be supplied with water from a distance of several miles. He died at Nombre de Dios in 1596.

DOMENICHINO
ALBERT DURER
BARNEY
DUDLEY
SIR F. DRAKE

ERASMUS,

A LEARNED writer, born in 1467 at Rotterdam. He was educated at Daventer, till the death of his parents, when by the perfidy of his guardians he was induced to enter on a monastic life. After residing some years in his convent, he obtained priest's orders, and became preceptor in various noble families. He travelled extensively, and published many erudite works, which raised him to the summit of literary fame. On visiting England he formed an intimacy with the literati of the day, particularly sir Thomas More, with whom he resided for some time at Chelsea. His death happened in 1536. Erasmus himself professed popery, but the freedom with which he satirized the monks excited the displeasure of the Romish church, and, though personally hostile to Luther, he certainly paved the way for the innovations of that famous reformer.

EULER.

THIS celebrated mathematician was born in 1707, and educated at Basil, under John Bernouilli. He resided the greater part of his life at Berlin and St. Petersburgh, whither he was invited respectively by Catherine II. and Frederick the Great. He died in the Russian metropolis in 1783. The powers of his mind were so various, and yet so profound, that he has been styled the Voltaire of mathematical science; his genius, ever fertile and active, was evinced by numerous voluminous works, all of them worthy of their great author.

PRINCE EUGENE,

A DISTINGUISHED military commander, born at Paris in 1663. He was intended for the church, but soon quitted his studies for military pursuits. Louis XIV. refusing to promote him, he entered the service of the German emperor, and became one of the most formidable enemies France ever knew. He gained numerous victories over the Franks; and during the war in the Netherlands shared the laurels of Marlborough at Blenheim, Ramillies, &c. He died at Vienna in 1736.

EUCLID,

ONE of the most eminent mathematicians of antiquity, is supposed to have been a native of Alexandria, and born about B.C. 300. He established an academy for the instruction of the Egyptian youth in geometry, which continued to flourish till the conquest of that country by the Saracens. His mathematical talents were of the highest order, and it is to him that we are indebted for giving a systematic form to the science, particularly that part of it which relates to geometry. He employed himself in the composition of various works, the principal of which, his "Elements of Geometry," still continues a standard work in the seminaries of learning, and will no doubt hand down his name to the latest posterity.

EURIPIDES,

THIS celebrated poet, who, with Æschylus and Sophocles, occupies the highest rank among the tragedians of Greece, was born B.C. 480. He was instructed in eloquence and ethical philosophy by Socrates and Anaxagoras. As early as 18 years of age he composed various dramatic pieces; and he rapidly attained the summit of poetical fame. A solitary cavern near Salamis was his usual resort for meditation; and there he is said to have written his finest compositions. He died B.C. 405. His poems are distinguished by pathos and sublime morality.

ERASMUS
BUTLER
Pr EUGENE
EUCLID
EURIPIDES

MELANCTHON,

One of the coadjutors of Luther in the German reformation, was born in 1497. His real name was Schwartzade, of which, like Erasmus, and other learned men, he assumed the Greek translation. He was appointed Greek professor in the university of Wittemberg, where he cultivated the acquaintance and embraced the doctrines of Luther. To the spread of Protestantism he powerfully contributed, and by his mild conciliatory spirit moderated the warm impetuosity of his more violent friend. He died in 1560.

DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH.

This illustrious general was born in Devonshire in 1650. At the age of 16 he was presented with an ensigncy, and distinguished himself at the siege of Tangier. He was patronized by James duke of York, who, on coming to the throne, raised him to the peerage. He joined with William III., from whom he received the command of the army in the Netherlands; but, on suspicion of treason, he was disgraced. His subsequent victories in Anne's reign, by which he humbled the imperious spirit of Louis XIV., have crowned him with the wreath of imperishable fame. He died in 1722.

MILTON.

This great poet was born in London in 1608, and educated at St. Paul's school, and also at Cambridge. His talents were displayed soon after quitting the university in the production of Comus, and some minor pieces. He visited the continent, and became acquainted with the most eminent men of the age. The part which he took in the civil wars is well known. After the Restoration he produced his immortal "Paradise Lost," which, though comparatively slighted on its first appearance, has gained its author a successful rivalry with the noblest bards of Greece and Rome. He died in 1674.

EARL OF MANSFIELD,

The fourth son of viscount Stormont, was born at Perth in 1705. He studied at Oxford and Lincoln's Inn, and was called to the bar in 1731. He held successively the offices of solicitor-general, attorney-general, and chief justice of the King's Bench, and was raised to the earldom in 1776. He united strong argumentative powers with great legal knowledge and fluent eloquence; and, though a partisan of high principles of government, was decidedly hostile to religious persecution. He resigned the office of chief justiciary in 1788, and died in 1793.

METASTASIO.

An eminent Italian poet, born at Rome in 1698. His poetic talents early attracted the attention of the celebrated Gravina, who took him under his patronage, and at his death in 1713 left him the whole of his property. At the age of 14 he composed his tragedy, "Il Giustino," in which he is considered as confining himself too closely to an imitation of the Grecian drama. In 1730 he was invited by the emperor Charles VI. to the court of Vienna, where he held the office of poet-laureat for upwards of 50 years. The empress Maria Theresa, and Ferdinand VI. of Spain, gave him distinguished marks of their favour, and his merits were highly appreciated by the critics of his time. His compositions comprise a great number of tragic operas, and several smaller dramatic pieces, which have been set to music. He died in 1782.

MILTON

MARGARET OF ANJOU,

The consort of Henry VI. king of England, is principally remarkable on the page of history for her masculine spirit, and the boldness of her martial enterprises. She was born in 1425, and united to Henry in 1443. On the civil wars breaking out between the Lancastrians and Yorkists, she displayed consummate prudence and skill; mustered forces, and fought several battles against her enemies. When her partizans succeeded she ruled the cabinet, and when defeated she intrigued with continental powers. After a turbulent life she died at Saumur in 1482.

QUEEN MARY,

This bigoted princess, whose persecuting spirit rendered her reign the most sanguinary period of British history, was the daughter of Henry VIII., by Catherine of Arragon, and born in 1517. On her accession, in 1553, she reversed all the edicts of Edward VI. in favour of Protestantism, and re-established popery in all its intolerance. She was united in 1554 to Philip of Spain, son of the emperor Charles V., who, though himself a bigoted Catholic, was disgusted with her thirst of blood, and soon grew weary of a consort who seemed destitute of a single amiable quality. The queen died in 1558.

FOURTH EARL OF MORTON.

This nobleman is memorable in Scottish history as the chief actor in the transactions of the reign of queen Mary, and during the minority of James VI. He was appointed lord high chancellor of Scotland in 1563. Having taken a prominent part in the murder of Rizzio in 1566, he was obliged to leave the kingdom, but was reinstated in his office in the following year. He subsequently assisted to expel Mary from the throne, and was elected regent of the kingdom in 1572. After holding the reins of government for six years he retired, and in 1581 was accused as an accessory to the murder of lord Darnley, and, though he appears to have been innocent of any direct participation in the crime, he was condemned to the scaffold, and executed by the machine called the Maiden, introduced by himself into Scotland.

MARY II.

This princess was born in 1662, and at the age of 15 was married to William prince of Orange, in conjunction with whom she was raised to the throne on the abdication of her father James II. She was of a mild and amiable disposition, and interfered little in matters of government except in the absence of her royal consort. Her death was occasioned by the small-pox in 1694.

MARY OF HUNGARY,

Regent of the Low Countries, and sister of Charles V. emperor of Germany, was born in 1503, and united in 1521 to Lewis king of Hungary. Upon his death, ten years after, she was presented by her brother with the government of the Netherlands, in which capacity she was eminently serviceable to his interest, by her perpetual annoyance of the French monarch. On the resignation of the crown by Charles she retired into Spain, where she died in 1558. Her political sagacity and prudence were great, and her martial courage equally remarkable; but she appears to have been comparatively destitute of the more amiable qualities which are the brightest ornament of her sex.

MARGARET OF ANJOU
MARY

MARMONTEL.

This celebrated French writer was born at Bort, a small town in the Limosin, in 1723, and educated at the Jesuits' College of Mauriac. In 1745 he went to Paris, where he obtained high reputation and emolument, and was eventually appointed historiographer of France, and secretary of the Royal Academy. Besides several tragedies, he is the author of "Moral Tales," "Elements of Literature," "Memoirs" of his own life, and other works, which are esteemed as elegant and agreeable compositions. He died in 1799.

LORD MONBODDO.

This learned judge was descended from the ancient Scottish family of Burnett, of Leys in Kincardineshire, and was born at Monboddo in 1714. He received his education at Aberdeen and Groningen, and was admitted an advocate in the Scottish courts in 1738. In 1767 he was raised to the bench, and received the title of lord Monboddo. His writings display considerable erudition and metaphysical skill, while they contain much that is extremely whimsical. The most known are his "Ancient Metaphysics," and an "Essay on the Origin and Progress of Language," published in 1773. His death took place in 1799.

JOHN BAPTIST MOLIERE.

A French comic writer, born at Paris in 1622. His predilection for the drama induced him to abandon the legal profession, for which he had been educated; and after exerting his talents for some time as a provincial actor he published some comic pieces, which introduced him to the patronage of Louis XIV. He subsequently obtained the highest celebrity as a dramatic writer, and continued to enjoy the favour of the king till his death, which took place in 1673. His works have passed through numerous editions, of which the most splendid is one by Dido, in 6 vols. 4to., published in 1792.

MOZART.

This wonderful man, who shares with Handel an undisputed supremacy among musical performers, was born at Saltzburg in 1756. His talents began very early to display themselves; at the age of six years his performance on various instruments excited the astonishment of all Germany. He subsequently visited France, Italy, and England, where he was received with the greatest enthusiasm; while all the nations of Europe who were favoured by his presence, or heard his compositions, conspired to spread and celebrate his fame. He died in 1792, at the court of the emperor Joseph II., in whose family he had been an inmate from childhood, and who continued through the whole of his life his steady and munificent patron. His operas, twelve in number, claim the highest rank among musical compositions.

MACPHERSON,

A Scotch writer, born at Kingussie, in Invernesshire, in 1738. In 1760 he published "Fragments of Ancient Poetry collected in the Highlands of Scotland," which were so well received that he was encouraged to extend his researches, and subsequently published the "Poems of Ossian." At a later period he translated the Iliad into Ossianic prose, and wrote a "History of Great Britain," and other works. He also employed his pen in vindication of the measures of government against the Americans, for which he was rewarded by the appointment of agent to the nabob of Arcot. He died in 1796.

MARMONTEL
L'MONDORGE
MOLIERE
MOZART
HASTINGSON

MERCATOR,

An eminent Dutch geographer, born at Rupelmonde in 1512. The mode of projection on marine charts which bears his name is said to have been the invention of Mr. Wright an Englishman; but he is the author of that part of navigation called "Mercator's Sailing," and of several works on geography and chronology, as well as some theological pieces. His death took place in 1594.

MAGELLAN,

The discoverer of the straits which bear his name, at the southern extremity of America, was a native of Portugal. After distinguishing himself under Albuquerque in the conquest of India, he entered into the Spanish service, and was appointed to command the fleet destined to attempt a westward passage to the Moluccas, in which he was successful. He afterwards took possession of the Philippine Islands in the name of the king of Spain, but was unfortunately slain in a skirmish with the natives in 1520, when only 18 of his men escaped with one vessel, which after sailing round the world reached Seville in 1521.

MARQUIS OF MONTROSE.

One of the most zealous and persevering partisans of Charles I. He served in the Scotch guards in France, and on his return to Scotland joined the covenanters, but becoming disgusted with their proceedings he soon after joined the standard of Charles I., and signalized himself at the battles of Perth, Aberdeen, and Inverlochy. He was at length defeated by general Leslie, and on the ruin of the royal cause retired to the Hague. In 1649 he repaired to Scotland for the purpose of raising an insurrection in favour of Charles II., but was eventually taken prisoner and executed at Edinburgh in 1650.

MACHIAVEL,

A celebrated Italian writer, was born at Florence in 1469. His extraction was noble, and his education such as qualified him for future political eminence. He attained the dignity of chancellor, and was also appointed, shortly after, secretary to the republic of his native city. During his enjoyment of these honours he was employed in various diplomatic missions, in which he displayed considerable abilities; but on the return of the opposite party to power he was deprived of his post. He was patronized however by Leo X., to whom his talents proved highly advantageous, and continued at Rome till his death in 1527. His chief work, "The Prince," has been highly censured for the vicious maxims which it contains, though some have doubted whether the author might not have intended in its composition to convey an ironical satire upon despotism.

PETER MARTYR.

This celebrated reformer, whose real name was Vermigli, was a native of Florence, where he was born in 1500. He was educated in the principles of the Romish church, became an Augustine monk, and was appointed prior of St. Fridian's at Lucca; but, embracing the Protestant faith, he was compelled to quit his native country to avoid persecution. He took refuge at Strasburgh, where he was for some time professor of divinity. He was subsequently invited to occupy the professor's chair in the university of Oxford, but on the accession of queen Mary he retired to Zurich, where he died in 1562, leaving several controversial works, and commentaries on various parts of Scripture.

MERCATOR
MAGELLAN
MARQUIS OF MONTROSE
MACHIAVEL
PETER MARTYR

EARL OF NORTHAMPTON.

SPENCER, the second earl of Northampton, distinguished himself by his unwavering fidelity to the interests of Charles I. After serving his royal master as his minister and ambassador, he took up arms in his defence, and brought into the field a well-disciplined force of not fewer than 2000 men, with part of which he obtained a decided victory over Sir John Gell, near Stafford, in 1642. His horse being however killed under him, he was surrounded by the enemy, who offered to spare his life, but he refused to receive quarter from those whom he considered as base rogues and rebels, and was consequently slain. Three of his sons served under him in this battle.

EARL OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

ALGERNON, 10th earl of Northumberland, was one of the privy-council of Charles I., whom he attended into Scotland in 1633, in order to his coronation. In 1636 he commanded a royal fleet of 60 sail, which destroyed the Dutch busses that were fishing on our coast, and in the following year was appointed lord high admiral of England. He subsequently espoused the parliamentary cause, and assisted in overthrowing the monarchy, though he opposed the more violent measures of the popular party, and afterwards favoured the Restoration. He died in 1668.

DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

THIS ambitious nobleman was the son of Dudley, the ill-fated minister who was sacrificed to popular indignation on the accession of Henry VIII. Having afterwards restored young Dudley's blood by act of parliament, Henry employed him in various services, and eventually raised him to the dignity of viscount Lisle, conferred on him the office of admiral, and appointed him one of the sixteen executors of his will. During the short reign of Edward VI. he made further progress in power and authority, was created earl of Warwick, and finally dignified with the title of Duke of Northumberland. His ambitious course terminated however in the ruin of himself and his family. Having attempted on the death of Edward to place the crown on the head of his daughter-in-law, lady Jane Grey, he was beheaded immediately after the accession of queen Mary in 1553.

SIR JOHN NORRIS,

A CELEBRATED naval commander, and second son of Henry lord Norris, was born in 1671. He greatly distinguished himself at the battle of Beachy Head in 1690, and was appointed commander of the Pelican fire-ship, from which he was gradually raised to the highest posts in the navy; and after sixty years of active and honourable service he died at sea in 1749.

LORD NAPIER

THIS celebrated mathematician was a Scotch peer by descent, and born in 1550. He received his education at St. Andrews, and still further to enrich his mind made the tour of France, Italy, and the German empire. On his return to Britain he devoted himself wholly to the study of theology and the mathematics, although had he chosen a more public life his high rank and intellectual powers would have ensured him distinguished fame. He died in 1617. The celebrity of Napier is justified by his invention of logarithms, given to the world in 1614. He also published a work called "Rhabdology, or a Treatise on Rods," and a "Comment on the Book of the Revelation."

DUKE OF NEWCASTLE.

This illustrious statesman, who for a long time took the lead in public affairs, was the son of Thomas lord Pelham, and was born in 1693. In 1718 he was appointed one of the commissioners to sign the treaty of alliance between Britain, Austria, and France; and in the following year was declared one of the lords justices for the administration of the government during the king's absence. He became principal secretary of state in 1724, and in 1756 was created duke of Newcastle. He died in 1768.

EARL OF NOTTINGHAM.

Lord Heneage Finch, a descendant of the Winchelsea family, was born in 1621, and educated at Westminster school and Christ Church Oxford, whence he removed to the Inner Temple. He obtained considerable reputation in his profession, and on the Restoration was appointed solicitor-general, in which capacity he conducted with zeal and ability the prosecution against the regicides. He subsequently rose through the gradations of office to the post of lord keeper of the great seal in 1673, and two years afterwards to that of lord high chancellor. In 1681 he was created earl of Nottingham, but died in the following year.

SIR ISAAC NEWTON,

The most celebrated philosopher of ancient or modern times, was born at Woolstrope in Lincolnshire in 1642, and educated at Cambridge, where in 1669 he was appointed to the professorship of mathematics. During his residence at Cambridge he made his three great discoveries of fluxions, the nature of light and colours, and the laws of gravitation, to the latter of which he was led by seeing an apple fall from a tree. His great work, the "Principia," was published in 1687. He was subsequently chosen president of the Royal Society, and received the honour of knighthood in 1705. Besides his philosophical works, he is the author of some theological pieces, which evince an intimate acquaintance with the volume of inspiration, and a high veneration for its authority. He died in 1727.

LORD NORTH.

This statesman, rendered obnoxious by his measures during the American war, was born in 1732, and educated at Eton and Oxford. He commenced his political career as a partisan of different administrations, and in 1770 was elevated to the premiership, in which capacity he distinguished himself by his promotion of measures which gave rise to the war between Great Britain and the American colonies In 1782 he resigned, and, except for a few months, never resumed office. He died in 1792.

LORD NELSON.

This unrivalled naval commander was the son of a clergyman in Norfolk, and was born in 1758. He entered the navy at the age of 12 years, and in 1779 was made post-captain and commander of a frigate. He signalized himself in several actions, and gained the reputation of a skilful seaman; but during the French war his abilities broke out in new and brilliant lustre. The sieges of Bastea and Calvi, the victories of St. Vincent, Aboukir, and Copenhagen, placed his name in the foremost rank of British naval heroes. The engagement off Trafalgar in 1805 considerably checked the progress of Buonaparte; but the hero of the day perished in the arms of victory, universally lamented by his country.

NEWTON

SIR JOHN OLDCASTLE,

Lord Cobham, a nobleman of great valour and military talents, who espoused the cause of the persecuted Lollards in the reign of Henry V. The archbishop of Canterbury having represented to Henry the necessity of making him a victim of ecclesiastical severity, in order to check the progress of the sect, that monarch first endeavoured by expostulation to reconcile him to the Catholic faith; but, being resolute in his religious sentiments, he was tried and condemned to the flames. He however escaped from the tower, and, according to some historians, aroused the party to attempt the destruction of their persecutors. Certain it is that Cobham was taken four years afterwards, hanged as a traitor, and his body burnt in execution of the sentence pronounced on him as a heretic, in 1417.

OTWAY,

A well-known tragic poet, was born in 1651 at Trottin in Sussex. Winchester and Oxford were the places of his education. He tried a military life, and by the interest of lord Plymouth obtained a commission; but after the first campaign quitted the profession of arms, and began to write for the stage. His tragedy of "Alcibiades" appeared in 1675; it was followed by the "Orphan," and "Venice Preserved," which gained him high reputation, but did not secure him from the horrors of pining want. He died in 1685.

OPIE,

A modern painter of eminence, born at St. Agnes, near Truro, in Cornwall, in 1761. He was the son of a carpenter, to which business he was to have been brought up; but his talent for drawing having attracted the notice of Dr. Wolcot, he was recommended to the patronage of lord Bateman in 1777. In 1780 he settled in London, where his abilities procured him both reputation and emolument. His death took place in 1807. He is the author of a memoir of Sir Joshua Reynolds.

EARL OF ORFORD.

Sir Robert Walpole was born in 1676 at Houghton in Norfolk, and educated at Eton and Cambridge. He distinguished himself in the senate as a zealous partisan of the whigs in Anne's reign, and after occupying various official situations was made prime minister, which office he sustained for 22 years, notwithstanding a vigorous and talented opposition. At length he was compelled by the strength of popular feeling to resign, and on retiring was created earl of Orford in 1742. He died in 1745. His administration was generally productive of peace and prosperity to the nation; but his ministerial success seems to have resulted chiefly from intrigue.

OUGHTRED,

A celebrated mathematician, was born in 1574 at Eton, where he received his education, as also at the university of Cambridge. He took orders, and was presented with the living of Shalford in Surrey, which he afterwards exchanged for that of Albury in the same county. He lived to an advanced age; and it is said that the joyful emotions with which he heard of the restoration of Charles II. overpowered his feeble frame, and occasioned a speedy dissolution. He is the author of several mathematical works, among which are a "Treatise on Trigonometry," another on "Arithmetic," and miscellaneous mathematical tracts.

Sr J. OLDCASTLE
OTWAY
OPIE
EARL OF OXFORD
OUGHTRED

DR. PRIDEAUX,

The author of a standard work on the connection of the Old and New Testaments, which is considered indispensable to the Biblical student, was born at Padstow in Cornwall in 1648, and educated under Dr. Busby at Westminster and at Christ Church Oxford. He was promoted to the deanery of Norwich, in which city he died in 1724. His great work comprises a mass of accurate information on every topic of Jewish history and antiquities, and on all the links which connected that people with the surrounding nations. Among his other productions are the "Life of Mahomet," which has passed through several editions, and a work on the "Original Right of Tithes."

DU PIN,

A learned French writer, born in Normandy in 1637. He became a doctor of the Sorbonne and professor of divinity in the Royal College. The liberality of his opinions however was not relished by his church, and exposed him to much persecution. His great work, the "Bibliothèque," besides being an excellent history of the church, comprises almost every thing of importance relative to the ancient theological writers, with judicious criticisms on their works. Among his other writings, which are numerous, is "A Complete Method of Studying Divinity," which, considered as the production of a Catholic, is a candid and respectable work. His death took place in 1719.

PUFFENDORF,

An eminent historian and moral philosopher, was born in Saxony in 1632. Leipsic and Jena were the places of his education. He was patronized at different periods by Charles XI. of Sweden, and the electoral princes of Brandenburg and the Palatinate, and continued actively engaged in philosophical and political pursuits till his death, which happened in 1694. His principal works are "The Law of Nature and Nations;" "The Elements of Jurisprudence;" "The State of the German Empire;" "Commentaries on Swedish Affairs," and memoirs of Scanderbeg, Gustavus Adolphus, and Frederic III. of Brandenburg.

MATTHEW PARIS,

An English historian, of whose life few particulars have been transmitted, but whose works prove him to have been a man of extraordinary knowledge for the period in which he lived. In 1217 he entered the order of Benedictine monks of St. Alban's. Henry III., who entertained a high opinion of his talents and integrity, employed him to write a history of his reign. He died at St. Albans in 1259. Besides several other productions, he is the author of a history of England from the Conquest to the close of Henry III., which is considered an impartial and valuable work.

PARKHURST,

An eminent Hebrew scholar, and a divine of the church of England, was born at Catesby in Northamptonshire in 1728, and educated at Rugby school, and Clare Hall, Cambridge. His Hebrew and Greek Lexicons comprise an invaluable fund of sacred criticism, and the elevated tone of piety which pervades them is only equalled by their learning and accuracy. Parkhurst is likewise the author of a work on the "Pre-existence and Divinity of Christ," and an "Address to Wesley." His death took place in 1797.

PRIDEAUX
DU PIN
PUFFENDORF
MATTHEW PARIS
PARKHURST

PETER THE GREAT,

Czar of Muscovy, and first emperor of Russia, was born in 1672. On his accession to the throne in 1696 he began to execute the most splendid schemes for the civilization and improvement of his empire. He travelled through Europe in order to acquire political knowledge, and also to learn the art of ship-building. On his return he reformed by his example and authority the barbarous manners of his subjects, founded colleges, to which were invited the learned of all nations, and established by degrees a powerful navy. The extravagant authority of the priests was also checked by his vigorous measures. His wars with Sweden added several provinces to the empire. He died in 1725.

POPE,

A highly celebrated poet, born in London in 1688. He composed in his tenth year a dramatic poem, and at sixteen published his famous pastorals, which introduced him to the friendship and patronage of the great. These were followed, at a maturer age, by "Windsor Forest," "Rape of the Lock," "Temple of Fame," and other pieces, all of which were eagerly received by the public, and have excited the general applause of posterity. Of the Iliad and Odyssey he produced a translation which for elegance of language, and harmony of versification, can never be surpassed. He died in 1744.

CATHERINE PARR,

The sixth wife of Henry VIII., was the eldest daughter of Sir Thomas Parr of Kendal. She had twice been left a widow when she attracted the notice and admiration of Henry, to whom she was united in 1644. She was a woman of good understanding, and zealously attached to the reformed religion, for which she had well nigh paid the forfeit of her life. Bishop Gardiner and others of the popish faction prevailed upon the king to sign a warrant for her committal to the tower; but in the mean time Catherine, who had been accidentally apprised of her danger, conducted herself with such prudence and address as completely to regain his confidence, and the malice of her enemies recoiled upon themselves. After the death of Henry, Catherine was married to admiral Seymour, uncle to Edward VI. She died in 1548.

PURCELL,

This celebrated composer was born in 1658. His musical talents were such that at the age of eighteen he was appointed organist of Westminster Abbey, and at a subsequent period filled the same office at the chapel royal St. James's. His musical works are highly esteemed, and comprise "Orpheus Britannicus," "Diocletian," anthems, sonatas, &c. He died in 1695. In the opinion of Dr. Busby he "shone not more by the greatness than the diversity, by the diversity than the originality of his talents."

PARNELL,

A divine and poet, born in Dublin in 1679. He was successively archdeacon of Clogher, prebendary of Dublin, and vicar of Finglass. His poems are not numerous, but will always please the lovers of melody and elegance in composition. Dr. Johnson says, "His praise must be derived from the easy sweetness of his diction; in his verses there is more happiness than pains: he is sprightly without effort, and always delights, though he never ravishes: every thing seems proper; yet every thing seems casual." He died in 1717.

PETER I
POPE
CATHERINE PARR
PARNELL

SPENCER PERCEVAL.

The memory of this statesman is preserved in British history rather by the melancholy circumstances which attended his death than by the splendour of his political career, though, had his life been prolonged, his senatorial abilities would doubtless have ranked him with the most illustrious individuals of the age. He was introduced to the cabinet as chancellor of the exchequer in 1806, and in 1810 was raised to the premiership. This dignity however he enjoyed only a few months, being mortally wounded by Bellingham, in April 1811, while entering the House of Commons. His death excited the general sympathy of the nation.

PORSON,

An eminent Greek scholar, born at East Ruston in Norfolk in 1759, and educated at Eton and Cambridge, where he became professor of Greek in 1793. He was afterwards librarian to the London Institution, and died in 1808. Porson's "Letters to Archdeacon Travers," on the authority of the disputed text, 1 John v. 7, 8, display profound learning, combined with great argumentive powers, though the spirit in which they are written is by no means amiable: the preface, which is of considerable length, contains some admirable remarks on Gibbon. Among his other works are editions of Æschylus, and some of the plays of Euripides, with critical notes.

PALEY.

This eminent moral philosopher was born in 1745 at Peterborough, and studied at Cambridge. Having entered into orders, he was presented to various livings, and rose at length to be subdean of Lincoln, and chancellor of Carlisle. He died in 1805. His various works prove the laborious study and deep erudition of their author. His "Evidences of Christianity" is a standard work, to which the "Horæ Paulinæ" forms an interesting and valuable appendage; while his "Moral and Political Philosophy" is calculated to charm and instruct every mind.

POUSSIN,

A famous French painter, was born in 1594 at Andelys in Normandy. He received instruction in the art from Naim, Elle, and others; but nature herself, by whom he had been gifted with splendid abilities, became at length his principal teacher. He improved his taste by visiting Rome, and studying the works of the first masters in painting and sculpture. The fame of his talents induced Louis XIII. to invite him to Paris, where he enjoyed a pension, and resided in the royal palace. He died in 1665 at Rome. Poussin excelled particularly in landscapes: his performances are numerous and much admired.

WILLIAM PITT,

One of the greatest statesmen of modern times, was born in 1759, and educated at Pembroke Hall, Oxford. His father, the great Lord Chatham, studied to form his mind to self-possession and public speaking, by which was nurtured the germ of that splendid eloquence which distinguished the future statesman. He entered parliament in 1781, and in 1783 was raised to the premiership, which office he held, with the exception of a short period of retirement, till his death in 1806. His talents for finance were great, and his oratorical powers only rivalled by Fox his celebrated opponent; but the general tendency of his measures was much questioned by the popular party, and is still the subject of frequent disputation.

SPENCER PERCEVAL
PORSON
PALEY
POUSSIN
PITT

PEARSON,

An eminent English prelate, born at Snoring in Norfolk in 1612, and educated at Eton and Cambridge. He obtained various preferments, among which were the prebend of Ely and archdeaconry of Surrey, was at length raised to the bishopric of Chester in 1673, and died in 1686. His "Exposition of the Creed" is a valuable and learned work, embracing a complete system of theology and a large portion of biblical criticism.

EARL OF PETERBOROUGH,

A famous military commander, was the son of Lord Mordaunt, and born in 1658. Having chosen the profession of arms, he signalized himself at the siege of Tangier in 1680; and in 1705, being invested with the supreme command of queen Anne's forces in Spain, he gained several splendid victories. At the Revolution he was created earl of Monmouth; and for his services in the Spanish war appointed generalissimo of the forces of the German emperor. He died in 1735.

PRIOR,

An English poet of considerable celebrity, was born in 1664, and educated at Westminster and Cambridge. He found a generous friend in lord Dorset, himself a poet, and the munificent patron of literature. He was sent in 1691 to the Hague, in an official capacity under government; and, rising by degrees in the royal favour, was appointed ambassador to the court of France. He was however rendered obnoxious on the accession of George I. by his share in the treaty of Utrecht, was deprived of his post, and threatened with impeachment. He died in 1721. His works are distinguished by elegance and harmony of diction, and are entitled to a high rank among the poems of his day.

PIZARRO,

The conqueror of Peru, was the illegitimate son of a gentleman of Truxillo, where he was born in 1475. At an early age he ran away from his father, by whom he had been employed in the most menial occupations, and entering the army distinguished himself under Nunez de Albon. In 1524 he embarked with Almagro and other adventurers, and, having discovered the coast of Peru, he returned to Spain and obtained a commission to attempt the conquest of that country, which by means of treachery and cruelty he at length achieved. In 1535 he laid the foundation of Lima. His prosperity was however of short continuance; for in 1537 a contest arose between him and Almagro, which terminated in the defeat and execution of the latter, by whose friends Pizarro was assassinated in his palace in 1541.

PENNANT.

This distinguished naturalist and antiquary was born in 1726 at Downing in Flintshire, and educated at the university of Oxford. The perusal of Willoughby's "Ornithology," a copy of which had been sent him as a present, excited in Pennant that taste for natural history which determined his future course. After making himself acquainted with the manners and productions of his native country, he travelled through various parts of Europe, and attained the highest celebrity by his various publications, among which are "Tours" in Scotland and other countries, "British and Arctic Zoology," "View of Hindostan," &c. &c. He was complimented by the university of Oxford with the degree of LL. D., and elected a member of various literary societies. His death took place in 1798.

PEARSON
E.L OF PETERBOROUGH
PRIOR
PIZARRO
PENNANT

LORD WILLIAM RUSSELL,

The 3d son of the duke of Bedford, was born in 1641. He distinguished himself as a senator by his enlightened and patriotic principles; but, his attachment to the Protestant religion leading him to support the bill for excluding James duke of York from the throne, he was marked out by a profligate court as an object of vengeance. On the evidence of perjured witnesses he was accused of participating in the Rye-house plot, and, after the ceremony of a mock trial, condemned to the scaffold, and executed July 21, 1683.

ROSCOMMON,

The son of James Dillon, earl of Roscommon, was born in Ireland in 1633. On the impeachment of his uncle, the earl of Strafford, with whom he had resided, he was sent to complete his education at Caen in Normandy; but soon after the Restoration he returned to England, and was appointed a captain of the guards. This commission he resigned in favour of a poor disbanded officer, who had assisted him in repelling some assassins by whom he was attacked in Dublin. He subsequently settled in London, and was made master of the horse to the duchess of York. His death was brought on by the injudicious remedies applied by a French empiric to relieve him from the violence of the gout in 1684. The poems of lord Roscommon were once much admired, and, though destitute of the higher graces of poetry, are still deemed respectable.

PRINCE RUPERT,

The son of Frederick, king of Bohemia, by Elizabeth, the daughter of James I., was born in 1619. On the breaking out of the civil war in England he commanded the cavalry of Charles I., in whose cause he displayed great valour and intrepidity. On the triumph of the parliament prince Rupert retired to the continent, but returned to England after the Restoration, and was invested with various offices by Charles II. On the conclusion of the great Dutch war, in which he signalized himself as a naval commander, he retired from public life, and spent the remainder of his days in scientific pursuits. He died in London in 1682. His mechanical skill is evinced by several inventions, which bear his name, particularly an engine for raising water.

NICHOLAS ROWE,

An English translator and dramatist, was born in 1673 in the county of Berkshire. He was educated for the law, but never practised; and in 1698 commenced writing for the stage. His tragedies of "Tamerlane," "Jane Shore," and the "Fair Penitent," have received the applause of critics, and are still favourites with the theatrical world, while his translation of Lucan's "Pharsalia" has been pronounced by Johnson "one of the noblest productions of English poetry." He died in 1718.

EARL OF ROCHESTER,

One of the wits of Charles II.'s reign, was born in 1647, and educated at Oxford. His short life was one continued scene of profligacy and dissipation, which brought him prematurely to the grave; but, on his deathbed, as attested by bishop Burnet, he declared himself a penitent, and gave satisfactory evidence of a decided change. His poetical compositions, though few in number, are characterized by elegance and taste, and had his life been prolonged he would no doubt have contributed much to enrich the literature of his country.

L^d RUSSELL
ROSCOMMON
PRINCE RUPERT
ROWE
ROCHESTER

SALVATOR ROSA.

This admirable painter was born at Naples in 1615, and, after receiving some instruction from Francesco Francazano, a kinsman, was left by the death of his father in destitute circumstances. It is even said that he spent several years with a troop of banditti. By the patronage of Lanfranc, into whose hands one of his drawings had accidentally fallen, he was at length enabled to enter the school of Spagnoletto, and, possessing a fertile imagination, he soon rose to eminence in the art. He excelled particularly in landscape painting, and in the representation of storms and battles. Among the best of his historical pieces is the "Conspiracy of Cataline." He was also esteemed for his poetic and musical talents. His death took place in 1673.

GUIDO RENI.

Few names stand higher in the art of painting than that of Guido Reni, who was the son of an eminent musician of Bologna, where he was born in 1575. He studied under Ludovico Caracci, and, adopting a manner the reverse of that which was then prevalent, soon acquired that grace, elevation, and facility of touch which distinguish all his works. Pope Paul V. employed him to paint his private chapel of Monte Cavallo, and the path to affluence as well as fame was open to him; but, being addicted to gambling, he soon squandered the munificent remuneration which he received, and at length died in poverty at Bologna in 1642.

RAPHAEL,

The prince of painters, was born at Urbino in 1483. He was instructed under Perugino, and improved himself by studying the works of Da Vinci and Angelo. The early productions of his genius attracted general admiration, and in his 25th year pope Julius II. invited him to Rome, where he spent nine years in embellishing the three apartments of the Vatican, for which he was munificently rewarded. But, his constitution having been undermined by various excesses, he died at the age of 37. Among his latest productions are the celebrated Cartoons, and his chef-d'œuvre—the Transfiguration. No artist ever united with his own peculiar excellence that universal perfection in the art of painting which Raphael displays: he also applied himself with unusual success to architecture, sculpture, and poetry.

RUBENS.

This famous painter was born in 1577, whether at Antwerp or Cologne is not certain. He cultivated his natural taste for painting by studying under Vestraecht, Van Oort, and others, and by viewing in Italy the works of the greatest masters. The fame of his talents soon procured him opulence and honour; he was knighted by the king of Spain, and by Charles I. of England. In 1620 he was employed by Mary of Medicis to paint the Luxemburg gallery; and was subsequently commissioned by Charles I. to paint the apotheosis of James I. at Whitehall. He died in 1643.

REMBRANDT,

A Dutch painter of great celebrity, was born near Leyden in 1606, and was early initiated in the study of the art by Swanenburg, Lostman, and Pinas. Having fixed his residence at Amsterdam, he displayed by various productions the most splendid talents, and rapidly acquired fame and affluence. He lived, however, in extreme parsimony, and generally evinced a mean disposition. He died in 1647.

SALVATOR ROSA
GUIDO RENI
RAPHAEL
RUBENS
REMBRANDT

ALLAN RAMSAY,

A Scotch poet, born in 1685 at Leadhills, in Lanarkshire, where he remained till his 15th year, when he was bound apprentice to a wig-maker in Edinburgh. In this humble occupation he continued for several years, but at length entered into business as a bookseller, and acquired a considerable fortune. Many of his poems are very highly esteemed, and his pastoral comedy of the "Gentle Shepherd" is considered one of the finest specimens of Scottish literature. He died in 1758.

RICHARDSON.

This celebrated novelist was born of obscure parentage in 1690 in Derbyshire, and received few advantages of education. In 1706 he was bound apprentice to a printer, and in 1719 commenced business in Fleet Street, where he was eminently successful. His literary talents remained unknown till the publication of "Pamela" in 1741, which soon raised him to a high degree of popularity. His prosperity and fame were subsequently established by the appearance of "Clarissa" in 1748, which was followed in 1753 by "Sir Charles Grandison." He was much afflicted in his latter years, and died in 1761.

SIR J. REYNOLDS,

An eminent English artist, and first president of the Royal Academy, was born in 1723 at Plympton in Devonshire. His taste for the fine arts was cultivated by domestic tuition, and by a visit to Rome, where he spent three years. In 1752 he became acquainted with Johnson, Burke, and other illustrious characters; and rising to eminence in his profession was rewarded by royal patronage, and the honour of knighthood. He died in 1792. As a painter his talents were chiefly displayed in portraits, in which he excelled most of his contemporaries; and as a man of letters and general taste his celebrity is based on his masterly discourses delivered before the Academy.

LORD RODNEY.

This gallant admiral, the son of captain Henry Rodney, was born in 1717, and entered the navy at an early age. In 1742 he was promoted to the rank of captain, and was appointed governor of Newfoundland in 1749. He was subsequently appointed rear-admiral of the blue, and, after acquitting himself in various services with extraordinary ability and success, was sent to the West Indies, where he obtained an important victory over count de Grasse, for which he was rewarded with the peerage in 1782. He died in London in 1792.

ROBERTSON,

An eminent Scottish historian and divine, was the son of the parish minister of Borthwick, Mid Lothian, where he was born in 1721. He received his education at Dalkeith and the university of Edinburgh, and was presented to the living of Gladsmuir, from which he was transferred to Edinburgh, and became chaplain of Stirling Castle, one of the king's chaplains, principal of the university, and royal historiographer of Scotland. His "History of Scotland," published in 1759, is written with great elegance and spirit, and forms one of the most complete of all modern histories. This was followed in 1769 by a "History of the reign of Charles V.," which established the reputation of the author as the ablest historian of modern times. Among his other works are a "History of America," and an "Historical Disquisition concerning Ancient India." Dr. Robertson died in 1793.

ALLAN RAMSAY
RICHARDSON
Sr J. REYNOLDS
Ld ROUNEY
ROBERTSON

RICHARD II.

Was the son of Edward the Black Prince, and grandson of Edward III., whom he succeeded as sovereign of England in 1377. He inherited however little of that vigour and energy of character which distinguished his father: he was influenced entirely by weak ministers; while, from his supposed participation in the murder of his uncle, the duke of Gloucester, no favourable estimate would be formed of his moral qualities. A private quarrel between two noblemen having been haughtily decided by Richard, the injured party raised a rebellion against him, which terminated in his abdication of the crown, and imprisonment in Pontefract Castle, where he was killed, A. D. 1392.

RICHARD III.

This monarch was the younger brother of Edward IV. king of England. He displayed considerable valour during the wars between the houses of York and Lancaster; but his laurels are stained by his inhuman slaughter of Henry VI. and his son in cold blood. On the death of Edward, in 1483, he intrigued with the nobility in order to set aside the succession of Edward V., and procure his own proclamation, which he at length effected by contriving the murder of the young king and his infant brother. Though detested for his personal vices, Richard reigned with much credit to himself as a legislator. He fell at the battle of Bosworth Field in 1485.

RABELAIS.

This celebrated French wit was born at Chinon, in or about 1483. He was originally a Franciscan monk; but threw off the monastic habit, and went to Montpellier, where he studied medicine with diligence and success. He afterwards accompanied cardinal de Bellay on a mission to Rome, entered into orders, and obtained a rectory and a prebend. Of his works the most celebrated is his "Lives of Gargantua and Pantagruel," which, though meriting the severest censure for its obscene and licentious character, displayed a fund of humour, and power of satirical description, which, except perhaps by Sterne, has never been equalled by any succeeding writer. He died in 1553.

SIR WALTER RALEIGH

Was born at Budleigh, Devonshire, in 1552. After distinguishing himself in the Netherlands, and in the civil war in Ireland, he obtained letters patent for the discovery of unknown countries, and proceeding to America took possession of that part afterwards called Virginia. On his return he was rewarded with the honour of knighthood and some grants of land. Being implicated in the conspiracy in favour of Arabella Stuart, Sir Walter was stripped of all his preferments and tried at Winchester. After 12 years' imprisonment in the Tower he was released and entrusted with the command of a squadron against Guienne, but the enterprise failed, and on his return to England he was arrested and executed in 1618.

RUDOLPHUS I.,

King of France, and founder of the house of Austria, was born in 1218, and elected to the imperial dignity in 1273. In 1277 he marched into Austria against Ottocarus king of Bohemia, and obtained the conquest of Austria, Styria, and Carniola. He afterwards attempted to induce the diet of Frankfort to create his son and successor, Albert, king of the Romans, but being unsuccessful he retired in disgust to Gemusheim, where he died in 1291.

RICHARD 2
RICHARD 3
RABELAIS
Sr W. RALEIGH
RODOLPHUS 1

CHARLOTTE SMITH.

This celebrated female writer was the daughter of Mr. Turner, a gentleman in Sussex, where she was born in 1749. In her 16th year she was married to Mr. Smith, a West India merchant, whose reverse of fortune some years afterwards gave a new impulse to her literary talents, which had previously been exercised for purposes of amusement, but were now exerted for the support of her family. Her admired "Sonnets" soon raised her to a high degree of popularity as a poetess, and the novels of "Emmeline," the "Orphan of the Castle," the "Old Manor House," &c., met with an equally flattering reception. Among her works are also some Minor Morals and other productions for youth. She died in 1806.

ARABELLA STUART.

This unfortunate lady was the daughter of the earl of Lenaox, and cousin of James I. king of England, to whom, in case of failure of issue, she was next in succession to the crown. This close relation to royalty was however the spring of all her misfortunes. Various projects were formed by the papal party, and subsequently by Cobham and Raleigh, having for their object her elevation to the throne; and on their detection, though herself perfectly innocent, she was imprisoned in the Tower, where she died in 1615.

STERNE,

A distinguished English writer, was born at Clonmel in Ireland in 1713, and after a course of study at Cambridge entered the church, and held successively various livings. His first publication, "Tristram Shandy," placed him in the foremost rank of British novelists, by the unrivalled humour and pathos which it displayed. The "Sentimental Journey" was given to the public a little before his death, which occurred in 1768. The writings of Swift are characterized by a power of moving the passions which stamp him as an original genius; but his principles were lax, and his life licentious.

SMOLLETT,

A celebrated historian and miscellaneous writer, was born at Dalquhurn, Dumbartonshire, in 1721, and educated with a view to the medical profession. After serving for a short time as surgeon's mate in the navy, he settled in London and devoted his time to authorship. Among the first productions of his pen were the tragedy of "The Regicide," the spirited poem entitled the "Tears of Scotland," and two satires. The popular novel of "Roderick Random" appeared in 1748, and was followed by various compositions of the same class. His other works comprise a "Continuation of Hume's History of England," "Voyages and Travels," a collection of "Poems," &c. He died in 1771.

SPENCE,

A divine and critic, born in 1698, and educated at New College, Oxford, where he subsequently became professor of poetry. Having taken orders he obtained the rectory of Great Horwood, and a prebend in Durham cathedral. His "Essay on Pope's Translation of the Odyssey" introduced him to the friendship of that distinguished poet, and he subsequently published "Observations," &c., collected from the conversations of Pope and others. Among his other works are "Polymetis," a "Dialogue on Beauty," and an "Account of the Life," &c., of Mr. Blacklock. He was accidentally drowned in his canal at Byfleet, Surrey, in 1768.

ARABELLA STUART
STERNE
SMOLLET
SPENCE

STILLINGFLEET.

THIS distinguished prelate was born at Cranbourne, Dorsetshire, in 1635, and educated at St. John's College, Cambridge. He was appointed archdeacon of London in 1677, and the following year dean of St. Paul's. At the Revolution he was raised to the see of Worcester, but died in 1699. Among the works of bishop Stillingfleet, which form six folio volumes, his "Origines Sacræ," and "Origines Britannicæ," are the most important. The former comprises a learned and able vindication of the authenticity and divine authority of the Scriptures; while the latter traces the early introduction of Christianity into Britain and its progress to the conversion of the Saxons.

SECKER,

A LEARNED English prelate, born at Sibthorpe, Nottinghamshire, in 1693. He was educated with the view of entering the dissenting ministry, but the difficulties he found in deciding on some speculative points induced him to relinquish this design, and apply himself to the study of medicine. In 1718 he visited Paris for further improvement, and in 1721 took his degree at Leyden. Subsequently, however, he entered Exeter College, Oxford, took orders in the established church, and after various minor preferments was raised to the see of Bristol in 1734, translated three years afterwards to Oxford, and became archbishop of Canterbury in 1758. He died in 1768. His Sermons, Charges, &c., form 12 vols. 8vo.

TIPPOO SAIB,

THE son of Hyder Ali, and equally distinguished for his vigilance and bravery in resisting the British during the war in India. He was born in 1749, and succeeded to the throne in 1782. Though under the necessity of concluding a peace with the East India Company in 1784, he still meditated means for attempting the expulsion of the British. Having attacked the rajah of Travancore, he was invested in his capital, and compelled to purchase a humiliating peace, by resigning half his dominions to the Company. In a subsequent war, which led to the storming of Seringapatam, he fell in the assault, May 4, 1799.

SHERLOCK,

AN eminent English prelate, born in London in 1678, and educated at Eton, whence he afterwards proceeded to Cambridge. He entered into orders and became dean of Chichester; and, having taken a prominent part in the controversy with Hoadley on the right of the clergy to temporal jurisdiction, was raised successively to the bishoprics of Bangor, Salisbury, and London. He died in 1761. His writings consist of Sermons and controversial pieces, among which is the "Trial of the Witnesses," in answer to Collins.

SHENSTONE,

AN approved English poet, was born in Shropshire in 1714, and received his education at Oxford, where he applied himself particularly to poetry. In 1740 he published his "Judgment of Hercules," addressed to Mr. Lyttleton; and two years afterwards the "School-mistress." In his latter years he spent much of his time in the indulgence of his taste for rural elegance, but unhappily expended his estate in adorning it, and at his death, in 1763, left little more than sufficed to pay his debts. His poems are chiefly of the pastoral kind, and charm by their ease and simplicity. They have been published, together with his Letters, &c., in 3 vols. 8vo.

STILLINGFLEET
SECKER
TIPTOO SAIB
SHERLOCK
SHENSTONE

SELDEN.

This learned and patriotic man, equally distinguished as a senator and a writer, was born in 1584, educated at Oxford, and studied the law in the Inner Temple. During the reign of James I. he was chiefly known for his legal erudition, and by the publication of various learned works; but his bold advocacy of popular rights rendered him obnoxious in the succeeding reign, and he was more than once imprisoned. He became a member of the Long Parliament in 1640, and displayed great moderation in the contest of that stormy period. He died in 1654. His works form 3 vols. fol.

LORD SOMERS,

A celebrated statesman and lawyer, was born at Worcester in 1650, and educated at Oxford. Having studied for the law, and commenced practice, he soon acquired considerable fame, and at the trial of the bishops in 1686 was employed as counsel to the accused parties. His talents and integrity were rewarded after the Revolution by the confidence of William III., by whom he was raised to the dignity of chancellor. He died in 1716.

ALGERNON SYDNEY,

The second son of the earl of Leicester, was born about 1620. After serving during the rebellion in Ireland, he returned in 1643, joined the standard of the parliament, and distinguished himself as a lieutenant-general of horse. During the usurpation of Cromwell he retired to the country and employed himself in writing his celebrated "Discourses on Government." At the Restoration he went to Hamburgh, and afterwards to Frenefort, where he continued till 1677, when his father having procured for him a special pardon he returned to England. He was subsequently implicated in the Rye-house plot, and with the most flagrant disregard of law and justice was condemned and executed in 1683.

SIR HANS SLOANE.

An eminent physician and naturalist, descended from a Scotch family settled at Killileah in Ireland, where he was born in 1660. After studying medicine in London he visited the continent, and took his degree at Montpellier. In 1687 he accompanied the duke of Albermarle to Jamaica, where he made a valuable collection of natural curiosities. He subsequently published a valuable work on the "Natural History of Jamaica." In 1689 he returned to London, became president of the College of Physicians, physician-general to the army, and physician to George II. On the death of Sir Isaac Newton, in 1727, he succeeded to the presidency of the Royal Society. He died in 1753, leaving the whole of his library, natural curiosities, medals, &c., to the public, on condition of paying £20,000 to his family. This valuable bequest formed the basis of the British Museum.

DEAN SWIFT,

An eminent political and miscellaneous writer, born in 1667, and educated at Kilkenny, Dublin, and Oxford. He afterwards resided with Sir W. Temple, by whom he was introduced to king William III. His talents, however, were not displayed till 1710, when, having joined the party of Hardy and Bolingbroke, he wrote several masterly pamphlets in defence of the ministry. He was preferred in 1713 to the deanery of St. Patrick's, and died in 1745. Besides his numerous political works, he wrote "Gulliver's Travels," and, in conjunction with Pope, poems, &c., on miscellaneous subjects.

SELDEN
Lᴰ SOMERS
ALGERNON SYDNEY
Sᴿ HANS SLOANE
SWIFT

DUKE OF SOMERSET.

This illustrious statesman was brother to lady Jane Seymour, on whose marriage with Henry VIII. he rose into distinction, being created viscount Beauchamp in 1536, in the following year earl of Hertford, and finally duke of Somerset in 1546. On the death of Henry he was chosen Protector by the council appointed during the minority of Edward VI., and in this high station obtained a high degree of popularity by his efforts to remedy existing evils. His vigour and penetration were not however equal to his good intentions, and, a conspiracy being formed against him by some ambitious nobles, he was brought to the Scaffold, January 1552.

SALADIN.

A renowned sultan of Egypt and Syria, born in 1137 at Tekrit on the Tigris. In the war of the Crusades he displayed the highest military talents, and for a long time successfully withstood the combined forces of the principal potentates of Europe, but was defeated by Richard Cœur-de-Lion in 1192, and compelled to sign a truce stipulating considerable advantages to the Christians, shortly after which he died at Damascus, greatly regretted by his subjects.

JANE SEYMOUR,

The third consort of Henry VIII. king of England, was the eldest daughter of Sir John Seymour, and was introduced to royal favour as maid of honour to queen Anne Boleyn. In this capacity she attracted the notice of Henry, who was so captivated by her personal beauty as to sacrifice to this new object of passion his virtuous and amiable consort. He then espoused Jane, who however died in childbed in the following year. Though the innocent occasion of Anne's disgrace, she is said by historians to have possessed peculiar sweetness of disposition.

JOSEPH SCALIGER,

A learned critic, born in 1540 at Agen, where his father, the elder Scaliger, was settled as a physician. The acquisition of languages was accomplished by Joseph with amazing facility, and he is said to have been master of not fewer than thirteen. He became professor of belles lettres at Leyden, where he died in 1609. His works consist chiefly of commentaries on the classics, Latin poems, and a treatise "De Emendatione Temporum."

SIR PHILIP SIDNEY,

The son of Sir Henry Sidney, was born in 1554 at Penshurst in Kent, and educated at both universities. After travelling in France, Germany, and Italy, he returned to London, and became a favourite of queen Elizabeth, by whom he was sent in 1576 on an embassy to the emperor Rodolph. He subsequently signalised himself as a general of cavalry, under his uncle the earl of Leicester. His short but illustrious career was terminated at the battle of Zutphen, where he was mortally wounded in 1586. Sidney is the author of "The Arcadia," "The Defence of Poetry," and various poems, and his influence was employed in the encouragement of genius and literature. He is described by historians as the most accomplished gentlemen of the age in which he lived; and an incident is recorded which exhibits the humanity of his disposition. When lying wounded on the field, and suffering from thirst, a bottle of water was brought to him, which he resigned to a common soldier who appeared to be in a more miserable condition than himself.

SPENCER,

One of the greatest of English poets, was born in London about 1553, and educated at Cambridge. His "Shepherd's Calender" appeared in 1576, and was dedicated to Sir Philip Sidney, by whom he was generously patronized. His "Faerie Queen" was dedicated to queen Elizabeth, who appointed him poet-laureat, and conferred on him a pension. In 1580 he was appointed secretary to the lord-lieutenant of Ireland, and subsequently received a grant of land in the county of Cork, but on the rebellion of Tyrone he was compelled to flee to England, where he died in 1599.

SULLY,

A French warrior and statesman, equally celebrated for bravery in the field and wisdom in the council, was born at the castle of Romney in 1560. At an early age he enjoyed the favour of the king of Navarre, afterwards Henry IV., to whose interests he ever remained devotedly attached. Having rendered himself obnoxious by his zealous efforts on the side of the Protestants, he narrowly escaped being involved in the massacre of St. Bartholomew. In 1597 he was placed at the head of the finances, and his prudent administration greatly contributed to the prosperity of the nation. After the death of Henry he retired from public affairs, and died in 1641.

SHAKSPEARE,

The greatest of dramatic poets, was born in 1564 at Stratford in Warwickshire. His education was very limited; but the absence of extrinsic knowledge was amply supplied by the native treasures of his wonderful mind; so that he may rather be said to have been above the need than without the advantages of learning. He came to London about 1587, and, from being employed in the humblest theatrical occupations, rose to be proprietor of the Globe Theatre and master of a handsome estate. He died at his native place, and on his natal day, in 1616. His compositions, though not free from great faults, have equally astonished the learned and the illiterate, and crowned him with the amaranth of poetic fame.

EARL OF STRAFFORD.

This ill-fated minister, the eldest son of Sir William Wentworth, was born in London in 1593, and educated at Cambridge. His first appearance in parliament was in 1621, when he was returned for York. For several years he was one of the most talented and strenuous advocates of popular rights, but after the murder of Buckingham he was received into royal favour, being created successively a baron, a viscount, and finally earl of Strafford. Notwithstanding his former opposition, Charles had no reason to complain of his fidelity, but his conduct at length rendered him obnoxious to public indignation: he was arraigned on a charge of high treason, and, whatever his crimes really were, was condemned with little regard to justice, and executed May 12, 1641.

SIR HENRY SPELMAN.

This celebrated antiquary was born at Congham in the county of Norfolk in 1562, and studied at Trinity College, Cambridge, and Lincoln's Inn. His talents for business recommended him to the favour of James I., who conferred on him the honour of knighthood, and appointed him one of the commissioners for settling tithes in Ireland. His death took place in 1641. Among his works are "Archæologus," a "History of English Councils," and a "History of Tenure by Knights' Service."

SPENCER
SULLY
SHAKSPEARE
THO EARL OF STAFFORD
SPELMAN

TITIAN,

The most eminent painter of the Venetian school, was born at the castle of Cador, in Friuli, about 1480. He became a pupil of Zuccati and Bellini, and improved himself by studying the works of Giorgione. As a landscape painter in particular he has never been surpassed, and seldom equalled. He enjoyed the esteem and patronage of Charles V., who conferred on him the honour of knighthood, and allowed him a considerable pension. His life was extended far beyond the usual period of human existence, and his powers remained almost unimpaired to the last. His works are in consequence extremely numerous. Among the most admired are those representing "The last Supper," and "The Saviour crowned with Thorns." Titian died of the plague in 1576.

MRS. TRIMMER,

This amiable and intelligent writer was the daughter of Joshua Kirby (the editor of "Taylor's Perspective"), and was born at Ipswich in 1741. In 1759 she was married to Mr. Trimmer, and died in 1810, leaving a number of useful publications for the young.

THOMSON,

One of the greatest poets that Britain can boast of, was born in Scotland in 1700, and educated for the church, which, however, he soon relinquished for the service of the Muses. His talents first appeared by the publication of his "Winter," on a visit to London in 1726, which was followed by the three other Seasons. These poems, and several dramatic pieces, met with great success, gained him the patronage and friendship of Pope and Lyttleton, and recommended him to lord Talbot, whose son he accompanied on a continental tour. He afterwards obtained a post under government, which secured him a competency for the rest of his life. He died in 1748. The works of Thomson are characterized by the higher attributes of genius; his Seasons have been pronounced by the most rigid critics the noblest specimen of descriptive poetry.

TILLOTSON,

This learned and amiable prelate was born at Sowerby, Yorkshire, in 1630, and entered at Clare Hall, Cambridge. He was bred in the principles of puritanism, but was induced to conform, in 1662, on the passing of the act of uniformity. After the occupancy of various livings he was in 1689 installed dean of St. Paul's, and made clerk of the closet to king William and queen Mary, by whom he was greatly esteemed for his moderation, prudence, and integrity. On the deprivation of Sancroft, in 1691, he accepted, though somewhat reluctantly, the metropolitan see of Canterbury. He died shortly after in 1694. The Sermons of Tillotson, which have long been popular, are distinguished by excellent sentiments, and pure, though not elegant, language.

MARIA THERESA,

Empress of Germany, was the daughter of the emperor Charles VI., on whose demise, in 1736, she ascended the throne. During a long and eventful reign, she distinguished herself by the general wisdom of her measures, and fully sustained the dignity of the Austrian sceptre. She appears also to have been anxious to promote the general welfare and happiness of her subjects. Her death took place in 1780, when she was succeeded by her son Joseph II.

TITIAN
MRS TRIMMER
THOMSON
TILLOTSON
MARIA THERESA

USHER,

A LEARNED divine and chronologist, was born in Dublin in 1580, and received his education at Trinity College in his native city. He was raised in 1620 to the bishopric of Meath, and translated shortly after to the Irish primacy. He was warm in his attachment to Charles I. in the Long Parliament; but his moderation and gentleness were so conspicuous that a contemporary writer gives it as his opinion "that, if all the defenders of church power had shown the spirit of Usher, episcopacy would never have been abolished." He died in 1656. The works of archbishop Usher evince great erudition and sincere piety: his chronological system is considered on the whole as the most correct extant.

SIR H. VANE,

AN eminent senator of republican principles, was born in 1612, and educated at Westminster school, and Magdalen Hall, Oxford. His known hostility to despotic power rendering it imprudent for him to remain in England, he embarked for the American continent, and was there chosen governor of Massachusetts. Returning to Britain about 1638, he was elected member of parliament for Hull, in which capacity he distinguished himself by his zeal against monarchy, though he did not consent to the final proceedings against Charles, and maintained a constant opposition to the Protector. After the Restoration he was nevertheless brought to the scaffold, June 1662.

VANDYKE,

ONE of the most celebrated portrait-painters that ever adorned the Flemish school, was born in 1599 at Antwerp. He studied under Van Balens and Rubens, and at the instance of the latter visited Rome and other cities of Italy. He afterwards returned to Antwerp, and thence passed over into England, where his talents were duly appreciated and rewarded by the patronage of Charles I., who knighted and pensioned him. He died in 1641.

SIR W. WALLACE.

THIS celebrated Scottish warrior was the son of a small landholder of Ellerslie in Renfrewshire, where he was born in 1276. Shortly after the conquest of Scotland by Edward I. he determined to attempt its liberation, and his name soon became formidable to the English. Being joined by Sir William Douglas, and many of the barons, he totally routed the enemy, after obtaining a splendid victory over earl Warrenne. He was elected regent of the kingdom, but, intent only on delivering his country, he resigned the office to prevent dissension among the nobles. After the battle of Falkirk he rallied the remnants of his forces and retired beyond the Forth, but was at length betrayed by his treacherous friend Sir John Monteith, and, to the disgrace of the English monarch, was executed as a traitor in 1305.

WILLIAM III.

THIS prince, the son of William prince of Orange, was elected stadtholder in 1672, and appointed general of the Dutch forces against Louis XIV. In 1677, he married Mary, the daughter of James II., and at the revolution, in 1688, he was raised, in conjunction with his consort, to the English throne. His life, the greater part of which was spent amid the din of war, was terminated in 1702. Under the government of William and Mary the taxes were mortgaged to procure supplies for carrying on the war with France, which was the commencement of our national debt.

VANDYKE

WASHINGTON.

One of the founders of the American republic, was born in Westmoreland county, Virginia, in 1732. In 1755 he accepted the command of a regiment under general Braddock, and, in this disastrous expedition, he gained the confidence of the army by his calmness and intrepidity. He afterwards retired for some years, but the congress having determined to resist the British government, he was elected, in 1774, commander-in-chief of the American army, and by his prudence and skill mainly contributed to achieve the independence of his country. In 1789 he was unanimously elected president of the United States, and held the reins of government for eight years, during which he displayed great wisdom and moderation. His death took place in 1799.

WARTON.

A poet and miscellaneous writer, born at Basingstoke in 1728, and educated at Oxford, where he became professor of poetry in 1757. Having taken orders, he obtained the living of Kiddington, and subsequently that of Hill Farrance. In 1785 he was appointed Camden professor of history and poet-laureat. His death took place in 1790. Besides his poems he wrote "The History of English Poetry," "Observations on the Faerie Queen," and other works.

WOLFE.

This distinguished general was born at Westerham in Kent, in 1726. He entered the army at an early age, and obtained the highest reputation for his valour and prudence at the battle of Laffeldt, and subsequently at the siege of Louisbourg. In consequence of the fame which he had acquired he was appointed to command the expedition destined against Quebec, and his conduct fully justified the choice. He landed his army on the northern shore of the St. Lawrence, and compelled the enemy to come to a general engagement, in which they were totally defeated, but the brave commander was mortally wounded in the moment of victory, Sept. 13, 1759.

WALCOT.

This well-known comic poet, who, under the assumed name of Peter Pindar, has acquired a lasting popularity by his satirical pieces, was a native of Devonshire. His talents were displayed to the great annoyance of several public characters, and even of royalty itself: the rustic simplicity of George III., which, though amiable in a private individual, seemed incompatible with regal dignity, was placed by the inimitable skill of Pindar in so ridiculous a light that the court thought it necessary to adopt an expedient which in such cases seldom fails, of bribing the provoking poet into silence.

WEST.

A modern painter of considerable eminence, born at Springfield, near Philadelphia, in 1738. His fondness for painting was evinced at a very early age, and his ingenuity supplied materials for his purpose—having obtained red and yellow from some Indians, and a piece of indigo from his mother, he furnished himself with pencils from the fur of a cat, to her no small disfigurement. In 1763 he visited England, and was introduced to George III., who employed him to paint the "Death of Regulus." He was elected president of the Royal Academy in 1791, and died in 1820. Among his latest works are those representing "Death on the Pale Horse," and "Christ Healing the Sick."

WASHINGTON
THO^S WADCTON
WOLFE
WALCOT
WEST

DR. J. WALLIS.

This eminent mathematician was born in 1616 at Ashford in Kent, and educated at Cambridge. In 1640 he took orders, and became chaplain to lady Vere. He subsequently obtained several preferments, and in 1649 was chosen Savilian professor of geometry at Oxford. After the Restoration he not only retained his offices, but was appointed one of the king's chaplains, and enjoyed the royal favour till his death in 1703. His mathematical works, published in 3 vols., are highly esteemed.

ZENO,

A Grecian philosopher, born at Citium in the Isle of Cyprus, about B.C. 360. At an early age he evinced an ardent thirst for knowledge, and became a disciple of Crates; but, though he admired the general principles of the Cynic school, he was anxious to extend the range of his enquiries, and accordingly attended the instructions of Xenocrates, Diodorus Cronus, Stilpo, and Polemon. Having made himself master of their various systems, he became the founder of a new sect, called Stoics, from the Stoa, a public portico at Athens, where he taught for nearly fifty years. His character was much esteemed; but the inability of his philosophy to support the mind under the vicissitudes of life was strikingly exemplified in his end. Being deeply affected on account of an accident which befel him, he put a period to his own existence, B.C. 264.

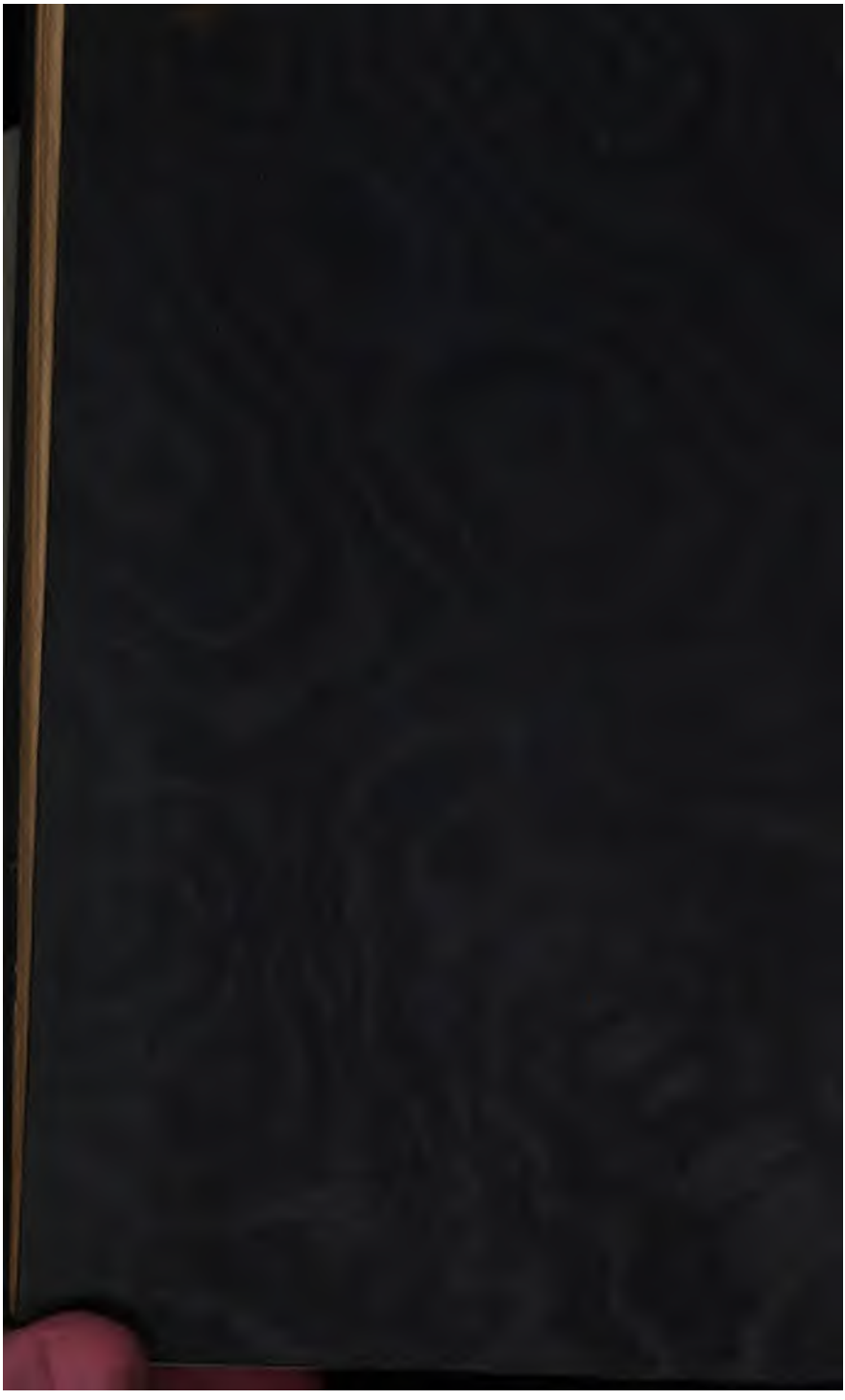
ZIMMERMAN,

The author of a well-known and popular essay on "Solitude," was a native of Brugg, in the canton of Berne, where he was born in 1728. After studying medicine at Gottingen, he practised for some years in his native place, and was subsequently appointed physician to the king of England at Hanover. He died in 1795. Besides the work already mentioned, he wrote an "Essay on National Pride," a "Treatise on the Experience of Medicine," and other works.

ZUINGLIUS,

This learned and zealous reformer was born at Wildhausen, Switzerland, in 1487, and educated at Basil, Berne, and Vienna. In 1506 he took orders, and was chosen minister of Glaris. He accompanied the Swiss troops to Italy in 1512 and 1515, and witnessed the disastrous battle of Morignan, a circumstance which deepened his abhorrence of offensive war. In 1518 he was appointed rector of Zurich, and became the means of establishing the reformed doctrines throughout the district, but was slain in the civil war between the Catholic and Protestant cantons in 1531. The theological works of Zuinglius are comprised in 4 folio volumes.

ZALEUCUS.

A famous legislator of the Locrians, who, having made a law by which adulterers were to be punished by the loss of their eyes, refused to absolve his own son when convicted of the crime, but displayed the strength of his paternal feelings by enduring one-half of the penalty in his stead. His laws in general, though they leaned to the side of severity, displayed great penetration, and he was so jealous of any infringement that he enacted that any person making proposals to alter them should do so with a rope round his neck, that he might be immediately strangled if his alterations were not esteemed beneficial. Zaleucus flourished about B.C. 500.

WALLIS
ZENO
ZUINGLIUS
ZALEUCUS